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THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

YIRGINIA

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VOLUME 8 NUMBER 1 - 1972

The VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

ALL MAIL RELATING TO THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO

HIRAM L. BOWERS, EDITOR P. O. BOX 353, HAMPTON, VA. 23369

ADDRESS ALL OFFICIAL MAIL OF THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION TO:

RICHARD JONES, SECY-TREAS. P. O. BOX 1981 **ROANOKE, VIRGINIA 24009**

VNA ELECTED OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - JAMES M. BEARD 1ST VICE PRESIDENT - GEORGE K, MOREHEAD 2ND VICE PRESIDENT - DONALD ROBERTS SECRETARY & TREASURER - RICHARD JONES SERGEANT AT ARMS - AL R. WALTERS

LEXINGTON, VA WH MOSELEY, VA TH

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ROANOKE, VA TH HAMPTON, VA SP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHARLES J. AFFLECK WILLIAM B. ALWOOD HIRAM L. BOWERS ERNEST BYER CHARLES W. CARLSON JOHN L. HENINGER JAMES M. KILLINGSWORTH WALTER L. MASON, JR. ROBERT M. NEW HOWARD E. SPAIN

VIRGINIA

APR 21 1972

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DEDICATED TO THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF NUMISMATICS IN VIRGINIA



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JAMES M. BEARD

NOW THAT SPRING IS ALMOST HERE THE COIN SHOWS ARE GETTING INTO HIGH GEAR. THE FIRST BEING HELD IN CULPEPER MARCH 11TH AND 12TH WITH THE NEXT BEING NORFOLK ON MARCH 25TH AND 26TH AT THE LAKE WRIGHT MOTOR LODGE WITH THE TIDEWATER COIN CLUB AS HOST. THE SALEM COIN CLUB WILL HAVE THEIR ANNUAL SHOW AT THE CROSSROADS MALL IN ROANOKE APRIL 14TH, 15TH AND 16TH.

THE CULPEPER COIN CLUB IS ONE OF OUR NEWEST MEMBERS OF THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION AND WE HOPE THAT MANY OF OUR MEMBERS ATTENDED.

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION WAS

HELD AT THE MONTICELLO HOTEL IN CHARLOTTESVILLE, SATURDAY, JANUARY 29, 1972 . AL WALTERS REPORTED THAT PLANS FOR THE ANNUAL CONVENTION TO BE HELD AT THE CAVALIER HOTEL IN VIRGINIA BEACH ARE COMING ALONG WELL. AL IS EXPECTING A LOT OF HELP FROM ALL OF THE VNA MEMBERSHIP.

, VA WHILE IN CHARLOTTESVILLE, THE OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS LOOKED OVER THE FACILITIES AT THE MONTICELLO HOTEL FOR THE POSSIBILITY OF HOLDING , VA THE 1973 CONVENTION THERE. AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION IT WAS FELT THAT . VA THE AREA IN THE HOTEL WOULD NOT BE LARGE ENOUGH TO PROVIDE THE NEEDED VA SPACE AND THAT THE RECREATION CENTER LOCATED BEHIND THE HOTEL WOULD NOT BE SATISFACTORY FOR THE BOURSE SPACE. THEREFORE, WE MUST LOOK FOR OTHER AREAS FOR A SITE FOR THE 1973 CONVENTION.

HIRAM BOWERS, EDITOR OF THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST, STATED THAT DUE TO THE EXCEPTIONALLY HEAVY WORK LOAD ON HIS JOB THAT HE WOULD BE GIVING UP THIS RESPONSIBILITY. I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK J, VA HIRAM FOR THE MARVELOUS JOB HE HAS DONE TO MAKE THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST , VA THE PUBLICATION THAT IT IS TODAY. HIS TIME AND DEVOTION TO VNA HAS , VA HELPED MAKE THIS ONE OF THE BEST NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATIONS. DON ROBERTS, -, VA OUR 2ND VICE PRESIDENT, WILL TAKE OVER THE DUTIES AS EDITOR. DON WILL NEED OUR HELP TO KEEP THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST THE FINE PUBLICATION THAT , MD IT IS AND WE HOPE THAT ALL OF THE CLUBS WILL SEND HIM NEWS OF THEIR ACT-, VA IVITIES AND MEETINGS.

BILL CAPERTON, THE CLUB REPRESENTATIVE PROGRAM CHAIRMAN, HAS BEEN ASKED TO CONTACT THE CLUB REPRESENTATIVES TO HANDLE THE TICKETS FOR THE GOLD TO BE GIVEN AWAY AT THE CONVENTION. EACH REPRESENTATIVE SHOULD TRY TO GET THEIR CLUB TO PARTICIPATE TO THE FULLEST EXTENT. THE NEXT CLUB REPRESENTATIVE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE CONVENTION IN VIRGINIA BEACH ON SUNDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 17TH.

HOPE TO SEE SOME OF YOU AT THE COIN SHOWS.

JAMES M. BEARD 317 Miller Street Lexington, Virginia 24450 463-5186 Phone:

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THE BIG QUESTION SINCE THE LAST ISSUE OF THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST HAS BEEN "WHAT HAPPENED?", REFERRING, OF COURSE, TO MANY OF THE LAST ISSUE PEING DELIVERED WITH POSTAGE DUE. WE HAVE NOT BEEN APLE TO FIND OUT JUST WHY BUT DID FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED. THE MAILING WAS PREPARED THE SAME AS IT HAS BEEN FOR YEARS, WITH EACH GROUP PACKAGED AND LABELED ACCORDING TO STATE, CITY AND ZIP CODE AND BEARING THE CORRECT AMOUNT OF POSTAGE. THE HAMPTON POST OFFICE ACCEPTED THE MAILING AS IT HAS DONE FOR YEARS AND IN THEIR DEFENSE I MUST SAY, DELIVERED ALL WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS WITHOUT ADDITIONAL POSTAGE. THE TROUBLE SEEMS TO HAVE DEVELOPED WHEN THE REST OF THEM WENT TO OUR "GRAND AND GLORIOUS" UNITE STATES POSTAL SERVICE FACILITY, WHERE THE PACKAGES WERE RIPPED APART, CLASSIFIED TO TAKE A HIGHER RATE AND SPED ON THEIR WAY WITH POSTAGE DUE A SIMPLE TOLL FREE PHONE CALL TO EITHER THE HAMPTON POST OFFICE OR THE EDITOR WOULD HAVE CLEARED EVERYTHING UP BUT COMMON COURTESY SEEMS TO BE MORE AND MORE A THING OF THE PAST WITH OUR INCREASED RATES, POORER SER-VICE AND BATTERED MAIL. WE DO HOPE THAT IT DOES NOT HAPPEN AGAIN. VERY FEW OF OUR GOOD AND FAITHFUL MEMBERS REFUSED TO PAY THE THREE CENT DUE, INDICATING THE CALIBER OF MEMBERS THAT WE HAVE IN VNA. FOR THOSE FEW WHO DID REFUSE THE MAILING, WE RESENT THEIR COPY JUST AS SOON AS TH POST OFFICE RETURNED IT. ONE GOOD MEMBER WAS SO KIND AS TO WRITE US THAT HE HAD CALLED FOR HIS MAIL AT HIS BOX ON SUNDAY BUT THEY WOULD NOT LET HIM PAY THE EXTRA POSTAGE THEN AND INSTEAD RETURNED IT TO US. THIS INDICATES THAT THERE WERE PROBABLY OTHERS IN THE SAME SITUATION.

FOR SEVERAL MONTHS THE DUTIES OF THE REGULAR JOB OF YOUR EDITOR HAVE INCREASED TO SUCH AN EXTENT THAT NEITHER THE TIME NOR ENERGY WERE AVAIL TO PROPERLY PREPARE FOR, EDIT AND PUBLISH THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST. AS YOUR PRESIDENT HAS ANNOUNCED, DON ROBERTS, AN OLD FAITHFUL MEMBER OF VNA AND CURRENTLY 2ND VICE PRESIDENT, HAS AGREED TO TAKE OVER AS EDITOR BEGINNING WITH THE NEXT ISSUE. DON, WHO HAS CONTRIBUTED MANY ARTICLES TO THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST, IS PROBABLY THE FINEST NUMISMATIST IN THIS AREA AND YOU WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED WITH HIS PRODUCT. OUR SINCERE THANKS TO DON FOR TAKING THIS QUER AT THIS TIME AND OUR PLEA TO ALL OF OUR MEMBERS AND CLUBS TO ASSIST HIM IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE.

SOME OF THE EARLIEST SPRING FLOWERS ARE SHOWING A LITTLE COLOR AND IT IS SURE A WELCOME SIGHT AFTER ONE OF THE STRANGEST WINTERS IN A LONG TIME. JUST AS SURELY AS THE FLOWER BUDS, THE COINS SHOWS ARE BLOSSOMING AND THAT IS ALSO A WELCOME CHANGE AFTER SEVERAL MONTHS OF LITTLE ACTIVITY ALONG THESE LINES. WE WILL TRY TO LIST ALL KNOWN SHOWS IN OUR CLUB CALENDAR AND TELL A LITTLE ABOUT THEM IN OUR CLUB NEWS. WE URGE ALL CLUBS TO NOTIFY US OF THEIR FORTHCOMING SHOWS FOR 1972 IN ORDER THAT WE MAY LIST THEM.

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR LOYALTY AND KINDNESSES OF THE PAST YEARS.

HIRAM BOWERS
P. O. Box 353
Hampton, Virginia 23369

NEWS OF VNA

QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING

OUR LAST QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING WAS HELD AT THE MONTICELLO HOTEL IN CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 29, 1972. AT THE TIME WE WERE PLEASED TO WELCOME INTO LIFE MEMBERSHIP A NUMBER OF APPLICANTS. A REPORT ON MEDAL SALES AND PROGRESS WAS INCOMPLETE BUT INDICATED THAT 900 SETS HAD BEEN RECEIVED OF A POSSIBLE 1000 AND JUST A LITTLE OVER 200 SETS REMAINED AT THE TIME. IN RESPONSE TO AN INVITATION FROM THE MONTICELLO COIN CLUB TO HOST A VNA CONVENTION, THE BOARD EXAMINED THE EXISTING FACILITIES AND FOUND THAT THE HOTEL COULD NOT NOW ACCOMODATE THE NUMBER OF DEALERS AND EXHIBITS THAT NOW COMPRISE A VNA CONVENTION. IT IS HOPED THAT LARGER FACILITIES WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE AS THAT IS A FINE AREA FOR CONVENTIONS AND THE MONTICELLO COIN CLUB IS A VERY GRACIOUS HOST. THE MEETING WAS EXTREMELY WELL ATT-ENDED AND FOLLOWING THE BUSINESS SESSION THE BOARD MEMBERS RETIRED TO THE DINING ROOM TO ENJOY A FINE LUNCHEON.

NEW MEMBER CLUB

IT IS A PLEASURE TO WELCOME BACK THE SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSO-CIATION OF PETERSBURG, VIRGINIA. THIS IS NOT REALLY A NEW MEMBER BUT AN OLD FRIEND THAT HAS RETURNED TO MEMBERSHIP. AGAIN, WELCOME!

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

IT IS INDEED A PLEASURE TO ANNOUNCE THE ADDITION OF FIVE NEW LIFE MEMB-ERS TO THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION:

BEN DUNCAN, RICHMOND, VIRGINIA JULIAN LEIDMAN, SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND THOMAS W. SALE, M.D., HAMPTON, VIRGINIA GARY K. OLSON, WASHINGTON, D.C. ALEXANDER D. PERWICH, MCLEAN, VIRGINIA

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WITH THE ADDITION OF THESE FIVE LIFE MEMBERS THE TOTAL NOW NUMBERS 32.

APPLICANT FOR REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUAL HAS APPLIED FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION AND WILL BECOME A MEMBER WITHIN 20 DAYS OF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE UNLESS SOME ADVERSE REACTION IS RECEIVED, IN WHICH CASE THE MATTER WILL BE ACTED ON BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

APPLICANT SPONSOR

R. C. TREVALLION

ROBERT R. SHAW, NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA IT IS A PLEASURE TO HAVE THIS APPLICANT AND WE THANK THE SPONSOR FOR HIS EFFORTS. WITH THE ADDITION OF THIS NAME THE APPLICANTS SINCE THE LAST ANNUAL CONVENTION NUMBER 55 INDIVIDUALS.

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION DOES NOT SPONSOR MEMBERSHIP DRIVES BUT RELIES ON ITS EXISTING MEMBERS TO BRING IN APPLICANTS WHO WILL EN-JOY BEING CONNECTED WITH THE ORGANIZATION AND WILL BE A CREDIT TO THE ASSOCIATION. WE ARE EXTREMELY FORTUNATE IN THIS RESPECT.

NAME OF CLUB AND LOCATION OF SHOW

TIDEWATER COIN CLUB, VIRGINIA BEACH, VA. SALEM COIN CLUB, ROANOKE, VA. SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB, STAUNTON, VA. APRIL 22 - 23 RADFORD COIN CLUB, RADFORD, VA. SHENANDOAH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY, WINCHESTER, VA. MAY 20 - 21 CULPEPER NUMISMATIC CLUB, CULPEPER, VA. SEPTEMBER 9 = 10 VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSN., VIRGINIA BEACH, VA. SEPTEMBER 15 = 17

DATES OF SHOW MARCH 25 - 26 APRIL 14 - 16 MAY 6 - 7

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MIDDLE ATLANTIC NUMISMATIC ASSN., WASHINGTON D.C. OCTOBER 19 - 22

WITH THE COMING OF SPRING WE AGAIN SEE OUR LISTINGS FLOURISH. IT IS A PLEASURE TO SEE THAT SOME CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS HAVE PLANNED WELL AHEAD AND SENT THEIR LISTINGS IS TO US, FOR THAT IS ONE OF THE PRIMARY PURPOSES, TO AVOID SCHEHULING CONFLICTING DATES FOR SHOWS, PARTICULARLY IN THE SAME GENERAL AREAS.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

MEMBER CLUBS ARE MAKING INCREASED USAGE OF THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS PREPARED BY THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION. THESE ARE BEAUTIFUL 35MM COLOR SLIDES WITH ACCOMPANYING TAPED NARRATIVES. THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR THE USE OF THESE PROGRAMS AND THEY WILL BE SHIPPED TO THE REQUESTING CLUB POSTPAID, YOUR ONLY OBLIGATION BEING TO PAY THE RETURN POSTAGE. PLEASE ORDER AS FAR IN ADVANCE AS POSSIBLE AND MAIL YOUR RE-QUESTS TO: THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION, P. O. BOX 353, HAMPTON VIRGINIA 23369. THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS ARE AVAILABLE:

- 1. COINS OF BIBLE DAYS
- 2. DIE VARIETIES OF THE EARLY UNITED STATES QUARTERS #1
- 3. DIE VARIETIES OF THE EARLY UNITED STATES QUARTERS #2
- 4. HARD TIMES TOKENS
- 5. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EARLY UNITED STATES HALF DOLLAR
- 6. THE STORY OF MONEY IN VIRGINIA

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

FOR ITS FOURTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIAT-ION WILL BE GOING BACK TO THE PLACE OF ITS BIRTH, VIRGINIA BEACH, VIR-GINIA, FOR IT WAS HERE IN 1959 THAT COLLECTORS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF CLUBS FROM ALL OVER VIRGINIA AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MET TO FORM THE ASSOCIATION "DEDICATED TO THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF NUMISMATICS IN VIRGINIA." THE CONVENTION WILL BE HELD AT THE CAVALIER HOTEL SEPTEMBER 15TH THROUGH 17TH. CONVENTION COORDINATOR, AL WALTERS, HAS BEEN WORK-ING HARD TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS AND REPORTS THAT MOST OF THEM ARE WELL UNDER WAY. EXPENSES ARE UP AGAIN THIS YEAR AND IT IS HOPED THAT ALL OF OUR MEMBERS AND CLUBS WILL HELP IN THE SALE OF TICKETS FOR THE GOLD COINS TO BE GIVEN AWAY AS WELL AS WITH ADVERTISING IN THE CONVENTION PROGRAM. FULL DETAILS WILL BE GIVEN IN LATER ISSUES AND THROUGH YOUR CLUB REPRESENTATIVES. IT IS HOPED THAT WE WILL AGAIN HAVE 40 BOURSE TABLES. BUT SPACE MAY LIMIT THIS TO A FEW LESS.

OUR COVER PICTURE

ON THE COVER OF THIS ISSUE WE FEATURE THE OLD POTETOURT COUNTY COURT HOUSE AS IT STANDS TODAY. THIS, OF COURSE, WAS THE SUPJECT OF THE MEDALS RELEASED AT OUR LAST CONVENTION, HELD AT NATURAL BRIDGE SEPTEMBER 1971. THE PHOTO IS A RECENT ONE BY FRANK HANNAH.

FOR THOSE WHO MAY NOT BE AWARE, THE ENTIRE PROFITS OF THESE MEDALS WILL GO TO RESTORING THIS HISTORIC OLD COURT HOUSE. AS OF JANUARY 29TH, THE DATE OF OUR LAST BOARD MEETING, AROUND 700 SETS OF THESE MEDALS HAD BEEN SOLD OUT OF AN ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM OF 1000 SETS (SILVER AND ERONZE WITH NUMBERED EDGES). THERE ARE STILL SOME SETS AVAILABLE AND THEY MAY BE ORDERED FROM THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION AT \$12.50 PER SET PLUS 50¢ SHIPPING CHARGE AND 48¢ STATE SALES TAX. NON-RESIDENTS NEED NOT INCLUDE THE SALES TAX. ORDER FROM THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION, P.O. BOX 353, HAMPTON, VIRGINIA 23369



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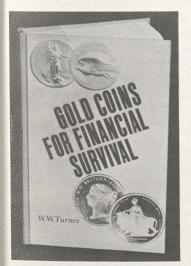


THE BOTETOURT COUNTY COURT HOUSE MEDALS

A BOOK REVIEW

"GOLD COINS FOR FINANCIAL SURVIVAL"

By: W. W. Turner



THE LURE OF GOLD IS AS OLD AS RECORDED HISTORY, BUT THE TELLING OF THE STORY NEVER DULLS. W. W. TURNER'S NEW BOOK NOT ONLY DEALS WITH THE ASPECTS OF INVESTMENT, BUT RELATES ÎN ANY INTERESTING TASHION THE HISTORY OF MAN'S ROMANCE WITH GOLD FROM BIBLICAL TIMES TO THE PRESENT. THE CHANGING ROLE IS OF CONTINUING INTEREST TO ALL OF US THAT HAVE EVER ADMIRED ITS APPEARANCE AND FELT ITS TOUCH IN OUR HANDS.

PICTURES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF COINS, MIN-ING METHODS AND FAMOUS WORKS OF GOLD ARE ADDITIONAL FEATURES.

GOLD COINS FOR FINANCIAL SURVIVAL, PY W. W. TURNER, NASHVILLE, TENN., PRICED AT

\$7.95 AT MOST BOOK STORES. A DELUXE EDITION IS ALSO AVAILABLE IN LIMIT-NUMBERS. Review by: Don Roberts

MEHERRIN VALLEY COIN CLUB

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JIM JOHNSON REPORTS THAT HE WAS RECENTLY INVITED TO GIVE THE PROGRAM AT THE DINNER MEETING OF THE MEHERRIN VALLEY COIN CLUB OF SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA. OF THE TOTAL MEMBERSHIP, ONLY ONE MEMBER WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND, AND HE SENT A NOTE OF REGRET. THE PROGRAM CONSISTED OF A TALK ON PAPER MONEY USED IN VIRGINIA FROM COLONIAL TIMES TO THE PRESENT, DISPLAYING NOTES OF THE VARIOUS PERIODS AND GIVING SOMETHING OF THEIR HISTORY AND INTERESTING SIDELIGHTS. HOWARD SPAIN COMPLETED HIS TERM AS PRESIDENT AND WAS SUCCEEDED BY GRAHAM D. LYON, WITH DELBROE JOHNSON CONTINUING AS SECRETARY-TREASURER.

RICHMOND COIN CLUB

HAVEN'T RECEIVED AN OFFICIAL NOTICE BUT HAVE HEARD THAT THE RICHMOND COIN CLUB ELECTED ITS OFFICERS FOR ANOTHER TERM WITH GEORGE MOREHEAD CONTINUING AS PRESIDENT. GEORGE HAS CERTAINLY BEEN A WORKER FOR BOTH THE RICHMOND CLUB AND THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION AND THEY COULDN'T HAVE MADE A BETTER CHOICE.

SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB

THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB OF STAUNTON, VIRGINIA IS BUSILY PREPARING FOR THEIR 8TH ANNUAL COIN SHOW TO BE HELD AT THE HOLIDAY INN, DOWNTOWN STAUNTON. DATES WILL BE APRIL 22ND AND 23RD. FOR THE FIFTH YEAR BOB BROWN WILL BE BOURSE CHAIRMAN. FOR FULL INFORMATION ON THE SHOW CONTACT BOB AT 8 NORTH AUGUSTA STREET, STAUNTON, VIRGINIA 24401. BOB IS A HARD WORKER FOR HIS CLUB AS WELL AS A BOOSTER FOR VNA AT ALL TIMES

WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

THE WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON, D. C. REPORTS THAT THE FEBRUARY PROGRAM WAS GIVEN BY THE VERY CAPABLE WALT MASON ON THE SUBJECT OF LOVE MONEY OR LOVE TOKENS, ACCOMPANIED BY BEAUTIFUL SLIDES. IN KEEP-WITH THE OCCASION THE DOOR PRIZE WAS A PIECE OF "LOVE MONEY. THEY ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION WILL HOLD ITS 7TH ANNUAL CONVENTION AT THE SHERATON-PARK HOTEL IN WASHINGTON JULY 14-16. WALT MASON WILL BE THE GENERAL CHAIRMAN THIS YEAR. (SORRY WE MISSED THIS IN OUR CALENDAR LISTING).

RADFORD COIN CLUB

THE RADFORD COIN CLUB OF RADFORD, VIRGINIA ANNOUNCED THROUGH ITS CORRESPONDENT, EDWARD C. CASSIDY, THAT NEW OFFICERS FOR 1972 WERE: PRESIDENT - PAUL SIMPKINS, VICE PRESIDENT - JOE KIRBY III AND SECRETARY-TREASURER - JAMES STRAWN. THEY HAVE ALSO ANNOUNCED THEIR 2ND ANNUAL SHOW - "SPRING COLLECTORS FESTIVAL" TO BE HELD MAY 6TH AND 7TH AT THE RADFORD RECREATION CENTER. THIS WILL BE A JOINT EFFORT OF THE RADFORD COIN CLUB AND RADFORD VFW POST NO. 776 AND WILL FEATURE ANTIQUES, COINS, GUNS KNIVES AND STAMPS. ADMISSION WILL BE 25ϕ AND SOUVENIRS WILL BE GIVEN WITH EACH ADMISSION. SORRY THAT WE DO NOT HAVE THE ADDRESS OF THE GENERAL CHAIRMAN FOR THOSE INTERESTED.

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GARLAND HARMAN, PRESIDENT OF THE SHENANDOAH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA ANNOUNCES THAT A COIN SHOW WILL BE HELD MAY 20TH AND 21ST AT THE GEORGE WASHINGTON HOTEL IN WINCHESTER. THE BOURSE WILL HAVE MANY LEADING DEALERS WHO SPECIALIZE IN RARE COINS, TOKENS, PAPER MONEY AND SUPPLIES. HISTORIC WINCHESTER WELCOMES YOU AND THE GEORGE WASHINGTON HOTEL OFFERS EXCELLENT ACCOMODATIONS AT REASONABLE RATES. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE BOURSE CHAIRMAN: CHARLES J. AFFLECK, 34 PEYTON STREET, WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA 22601. OTHER ATTRACTIONS IN THE AREA THE SAME WEEKEND WILL BE THE WINCHESTER GUN CLUB AND THE MEET OF THE NORTH SOUTH SKIRMISH ASSOCIATION. FOR A FULL WEEKEND, PLAN TO ATTEND.

CULPEPER NUMISMATIC CLUB

W. P. BARRET, TREASURER OF THE CULPEPER NUMISMATIC CLUB OF CULPEPER, VIRGINIA, ANNOUNCES THAT OFFICERS FOR 1972 ARE: PRESIDENT - GEORGE P. MILLS, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT - W.H. RUDD, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT - GEORGE CALAMOS, SECRETARY - MRS. RACHEL ESTES AND TREASURER - W. P. BARRET. DIRECTORS ARE: DENNIS MORGAN, ROY LEGGE, EVANS GROVES AND JAMES HUDSON. THE CULPEPER CLUB, ALWAYS ONE TO PLAN AHEAD, HAS ALSO COMPLETED PLANS FOR ITS ANNUAL SHOW, THE FOURTH, TO BE HELD AT THE HOLIDAY INN, U.S. 29-S, CULPEPER, VIRGINIA SEPTEMBER 9TH AND 10TH. THE GENERAL CHAIRMAN IS W. P. BARRET AND YOU MAY CONTACT HIM FOR FURTHER INFORMATION BY WRITING TO BOX 773, CULPEPER, VIRGINIA 22701.

VIRGINIA PENINSULA COIN CLUB

AT THEIR JANUARY MEETING THE VIRGINIA PENINSULA COIN CLUB OF HAMPTON AND NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA INSTALLED OFFICERS FOR 1972. THEY ARE: PRESIDENT - AL WALTERS, VICE PRESIDENT - JIM ROSS, SECRETARY-TREASURER- MARGERY HANNAH, SERGEANT-AT-ARMS - WALLACE ALBERTSON. SECRETARY MARGERY HANNAH REPORTS THAT THEIR 19TH ANNUAL BANQUET WAS THE BEST EVER WITH 93 IN ATTENDANCE. THE OUTSTANDING MEMBER AWARD FOR 1971 WAS AWARDED TO RUTH DOLLINS, AND WELL DESERVED ITWAS AS SHE HAS BEEN A FAITHFUL AND CAPABLE SECRETARY FOR VPCC. WE CONGRATULATE THE SECRETARY ON THE FINE NEW NEWSLETTER, PRINTED AND WITH PICTURES. SOMEHOW WE SUSPECT THAT HER HUSBAND, FRANK HANNAH, OWNER OF THE COMMERCIAL PRINTING COMPANY "MULTI-PRINT" MAY HAVE A HAND IN THIS ALSO.

SALEM COIN CLUB

LARRY BOOTH, CORRESPONDING SECRETARY OF THE SALEM COIN CLUB, SALEM, VIRGINIA, ANNOUNCES THAT THEIR CLUB HAS TAKEN A FULL PAGE ADVERTISEMENT IN THE CONVENTION PROGRAM FOR 1972. AS ALWAYS, THE SALEM CLUB SUPPORTS VNA TO ITS UTMOST. WE HOPE THAT OTHER COIN CLUBS WILL FOLLOW SUIT AND EXPECT TO HEAR FROM YOU SOON. THEY WILL HOLD THEIR ANNUAL COIN SHOW AT THE CROSSROADS MALL, ROANOKE, VIRGINIA APRIL 14TH, 15TH AND 16TH. WE DO NOT HAVE DETAILS ON THE SHOW AT THIS TIME BUT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION WRITE: SALEM COIN CLUB, P. O. BOX 175, SALEM, VIRGINIA 24153. THIS IS ALWAYS AN OUTSTANDING SHOW AND ONE OF THE VERY FEW THREE DAY CLUB SHOWS. MANY FINE DEALERS ARE ALWAYS PRESENT AND THIS SHOULD BE NO EXCEPTION.

SECRET OF THE GREAT SEAL OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA, AS TOLD BY JAMES H. JONES, PODY-SERVANT TO PRESIDENT JEFFERSON DAVIS. TELLS HOW HE HID IT, AND WILL NEVER DIVULGE PLACE. PLACE - DEANWOOD, D. C. OCT. 28, 1911. (From an old newspaper (name unknown) of October 29, 1911. Submitted by Howard Spain, Waverly, Virginia.)

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TIME - NOW. BUT TO ANYONE SITTING ON THE PORCH OF THE COZY, LITTLE HOME IN THE TWILIGHT, WATCHING THE MOON CREEP OVER THE BIG, DARK HILL AND LISTENING TO THE CROAKING OF THE FROGS DOWN IN THE DAMP HOLLOWS BEYOND THE CAR TRACKS, IT DIDN'T SEEM LIKE NOW. FOR THE OLD MAN SITTING IN THE ARM-CHAIR WAS TALKING IN LOW TONES ABOUT THE OLD DAYS, THE DAYS OF FIFTY YEARS AGO. HE WAS LIVING AGAIN THE PAST, IN THE TIME OF FIRE AND SWORD, AND OF THE BIG BATTLES AND GIG MEN, WHEN RICHMOND "ROCKED TO ROARING GUNS", AND HISTORY WAS MADE ANEW AT EACH SUNSET.

"YES," HE MUSED, "I AM THE MAN WHO HID THE GREAT SEAL OF THE CONFEDERACY, AND AM THE ONLY PERSON, EITHER DEAD OR ALIVE, WHO KNOWS WHERE IT IS TODAY."

IT WAS JAMES H. JONES WHO WAS SPEAKING. HE IS NOW A MAN OVER EIGHTY YEARS, TALL AND SLENDER, WITH A STRAIGHT FIGURE THAT IS CLOTHED IN THE SAME STYLE HE WORE FIFTY YEARS AGO--BOOTS, LONG FROCK COAT, PLACK SUIT, SMALL BLACK TIE AND HIGH COLLAR. BEFORE MR. DAVIS WAS MADE PRESIDENT, JONES WAITED ON HIM AT THE FAMOUS ST. CHARLES HOTEL IN NEW ORLEANS, AND WHEN THE WAR BROKE OUT AND MR. DAVIS WAS ELECTED HEAD OF THE CONFEDERACY, JONES ACCOMAPNIED HIM AS A BODY-SERVANT, PUT WAS A FREE MAN AND WAS PAID WAGES FOR ALL HIS SERVICES. HE IS A NATIVE OF NORTH CAROLINA, BUT OF INDIAN DESCENT, HIS FATHER HAVING BEEN A "CREOLE" AND HIS MOTHER A "CHEROKEE". THE INDIAN PLOOD SHOWS VERY PLAINLY IN THE SWARTHY SKIN AND HIGH CHEEKBONES, AS WELL AS IN THE TALL, LITHE FIGURE THAT EVEN AGE CANNOT BEND.

FROM THE DAY HE ENTERED MR. DAVIS'S SERVICE UNTIL HE LEFT HIM, A PRISON-ER AT FORTRESS MONROE, JONES WAS A FAITHFUL SERVANT AND A TRUSTWORTHY FRIEND TO THE WHOLE FAMILY. AT PRESENT JONES IS LIVING WITH HIS SON, DR. WILLIAM JONES, IN THE NEW SUBURB OF "DEANWOOD", ABOUT FOUR MILES OUT OF THE BENNINGS LINE, NEAR WASHINGTON.

"I WAS WITH MR. JEFFERSON DAVIS," THE OLD MAN CONTINUED, "WHEN HE WENT TO MONTGOMERY, WHICH WAS THE FIRST CAPITOL OF THE CONFEDERACY, AND WHEN WE MOVED TO RICHMOND. THE MANSION THERE WAS A PIG HOUSE, WITH LARGE PILLARS AND BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS. MR. DAVIS HAD A PRIVATE OFFICE IN THE HOUSE, BUT HIS BUSINESS OFFICE WAS DOWN THE STREET. EVERY MORNING ABOUT TEN I WENT DOWN WITH HIM. THEY WERE PRETTY PUSY TIMES, TOO. THERE WERE CABINET MEETINGS, AND I HAD TO SHOW THE GENTLEMEN IN. AND EVERY DAY THERE WERE GENERALS COMING FOR CONSULTATIONS. MANY A TIME I HAVE SEEN GENERAL LEE COME IN FOR A TALK WITH MR. DAVIS, AND THERE WERE GENERALS STUART AND JACKSON, TOO, THAT I REMEMBER WELL."

"LIFE IN RICHMOND THEN WAS NOT GAY. WE HAD RECEPTIONS AT THE MANSION

SOMETIMES, BUT NO BALLS, AND MRS. DAVIS HAD A HOUSEFUL OF YOUNG CHILD-REN. THERE WERE WILLIE, AND JEFF AND JOE AND MISS MAGGIE AND MISS WIN-NIE--ALL LITTLE CHILDREN. I REMEMBER WHEN LITTLE JOE WAS KILLED. IT HAPPENED THAT ALL OF THE FAMILY WERE OUT OF THE HOUSE, THE MAIDS WERE GONE AND ONLY THE COOK AT--HOME. SHE TOLD ME THAT LITTLE JOE HAD FALLEN AND WAS PROPABLY DEAD, SO I RAN DOWN TO MR. DAVIS'S OFFICE, MRS. DAVIS WAS IN THE ROOM WITH HIM, AND I TOLD THEM ONE OF THE CHILDREN WAS HURT. IT SEEMS THE CHILD HAD BEEN WALKING AROUND THE RAILING OF THE PORCH, WHICH RAN HIGH ABOVE THE GROUND, AND BELOW WAS A PRICK WALK. THE FALL KILLED HIM."

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"WHILE I DO NOT BELIEVE IN SLAVERY, I NATURALLY WANTED OUR TROOPS TO WIN. WE IN VIRGINIA, ESPECIALLY RICHMOND, THOUGHT THAT YANKEES WERE SOMETHING AWFUL IN THOSE DAYS--THAT THEY HAD HORNS-AND SOME FOLKS WERE AS AFRAID OF A YANKEE AS THEY WERE OF SATAN HIMSELF." "DO YOU KNOW," AND THE OLD MAN'S VOICE SANK INTO AN IMPRESSIVE WHISPER, "I HAVEN'T GOTTEN OVER THAT FEELING YET--I SOMEHOW CAN'T ABIDE A YANKEE THIS VERY DAY."

OVER THE DARKENING SKY FLUSHED THE ELECTRIC GLOW THAT HANGS OVER THE CITY, A GOLDEN MIST BRIGHTER THAN THE MOONLIGHT. AND NOW, WITH THE GLORY OF THE LIGHT FROM THE CAPITAL OF THE NATION SHINING DOWN ON HIM, IT SEEMED STRANGE TO HEAR ONE SPEAK WITH THE FEELINGS OF FIFTY YEARS AGO.

"I WAS IN MR. DAVIS'S ROOM WHEN THE NEWS WAS PROUGHT TO HIM OF THE DEATH OF GENERAL JACKSON. I WELL REMEMPER HIS DISTRESS, AND THAT HE EXCLAIMED "THE DEATH OF JACKSON IS THE LOSS OF A HUNDRED THOUSAND MEN." I ALSO REMEMBER A LITTLE INCIDENT ABOUT GENERAL LEE. ONE DAY -- I THINK IT WAS APOUT THE TIME OF THE SEVEN DAYS FIGHT AROUND RICHMOND -- MR. DAVIS HAD ME DRIVE HIM AND GENERAL LEE OUT TO THE SUBURBS, TO INSPECT THE FORTIFICATIONS. THE YANKEE ARMY WAS NOT VERY FAR OFF, EITHER. AS WE WERE ABOUT TO START, I HEARD GENERAL LEE SAY TO MR. DAVIS: MR. DAVIS DO YOU THINK YOUR COACHMAN IS TRUSTWORTHY? "GENERAL LEE," MR. DAVIS ANSWERED, "YOU CAN TRUST JONES AS WELL AS YOU CAN TRUST ME -- WE ARE PERF-ECTLY SAFE WITH HIM." I NEVER BLAMED GENERAL LEE A BIT FOR THAT SPEECH FOR YOU SEE, THE YANKEE LINES WERE NOT SO FAR OUT, BUT THAT I COULD HAVE RUN MY HORSES OUT TO THEM, AND A FINE THING IT WOULD HAVE BEEN FOR THE YANKS TO HAVE GOTTEN THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFEDERACY AND THE COM-MANDING GENERAL OF THE SOUTHERN AT ONE CLIP. THEY GOT HOME SAFE, YOU CAN BET."

"ABOUT THE SEAL. WELL IT WAS THIS WAY. THE FIRST SEAL OF THE CONFEDERACY EVER USED WAS MADE IN MONTGOMERY AND ENGRAVED ON WOOD WITH KNIVES. IT WAS USED TO COMMISSION ADMIRAL SEMMES, WHO PACAME SUCH A FAMOUS FIGHTER AFTERWARDS. IN RICHMOND ONE CAME FROM BALTIMORE--THIS WAS IN 1862. BUT THE LAST ONE, THE ONE THAT MR. DAVIS GAVE TO ME TO HIDE, WAS MADE IN ENGLAND, BY ORDERS OF MR. MASON, AND SHIPPED OVER, COMING BY THE FANNY, A PLOCKADE RUNNER. IT ARRIVED IN A PEAUTIFUL ROSEWOOD POX, ALL INLAID WITH PEARL AND IVORY, JUST LIKE A PISTOL CASE. IT WAS MADE OF SILVER WITH SOME ORNAMENTATIONS OF GOLD AND WEIGHED ABOUT TEN POUNDS.

THE FACE HAD A FIGURE OF GENERAL WASHINGTON ON HORSEPACK, A WREATH OF CORN, WHEAT, TOBACCO AND COTTON FLOWERS, AND A LATIN MOTTO. THIS SEAL WAS NEVER USED."

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"SHORTLY AFTER IT CAME MR. DAVIS CALLED ME INTO HIS PRIVATE OFFICE AND PUT IT INTO MY HANDS. "JONES," HE SAID, "I WANT YOU TO HIDE THIS AND NEVER TELL ANYBODY WHERE YOU PUT IT." I TOOK THE SEAL AND HID IT. THE SEAL IS THERE TODAY. NO HUMAN BEING, EXCEPT MYSELF, EVER KNEW OR EVER WILL KNOW WHERE I PUT IT."

"IT WAS A SACRED TRUST GIVEN TO ME BY MR. DAVIS, THAT I WILL NEVER BETRAY AND I WILL GO DOWN TO MY GRAVEWITH IT SAFE. MR. DAVIS HIMSELF NEVER ASKED MY WHERE I PUT IT. TIME AND AGAIN PEOPLE HAVE TRIED TO GET THE SECRET AWAY FROM ME-BUT THEY NEVER COULD. I REMEMBER ONE MAN, A LAWYER, TALKED TO ME FOR FIVE HOURS TRYING TO WORM OUT THE INFORMATION, BUT HE DID NOT SUCEED. ANOTHER MAN TOLD ME HE WOULD GIVE ME \$15,000.00 FOR THE SECRET. BUT I WILL NEVER BETRAY MY TRUST. IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT THE YANKEE ARMY WHEN THEY TOOK RICHMOND, GOT THE SEAL AND BROUGHT IT TO WASHINGTON, THAT IS NOT TRUE. IT WAS HIDDEN BY ME WHERE NO MAN WILL EVER KNOW."

"SHORTLY BEFORE GENERAL LEE SURRENDERED, MR. DAVIS INTRUSTED ME WITH ANOTHER IMPORTANT COMMISSION. HE CALLED ME INTO HIS CABINET ROOM, AND I REMEMBER MANY MEMPERS OF IT WERE SITTING AROUND; AMONGST THEM, I THINK WERE SECRETARY BENJAMIN AND MR. REAGAN. MR. DAVIS TOLD ME HE WANTED ME TO TAKE SOME GOVERNMENT MONEY DOWN SOUTH--\$13,000.000, HE SAIN THE AMOUNT WAS. THEN HE GAVE ME INSTRUCTIONS THAT I WAS TO GO ON THE TRAIN AS FAR AS NEWBERRY, S. C. AND DELIVER THE TREASURE TO CAPTAIN PARKER. THE NEXT DAY I PUT THE FAMILY CARRIAGE AND TEAM ON THE CAR FOR A BLIND, THEN PILED THE KEGS OF MONEY UNDER THE FODDER. WE COUPLED ON THE TRAIN AND STARTED OUT, NO ONE EVER DREAMING THAT THE CAR WITH CARRIAGE, HORSES AND FODDER CONTAINED \$13,000,000 IN COIN. IN SOUTH CAROLINA I TURNED THE MONEY OVER TO CAPTAIN PARKER, WHO BURIED IT, BUT IT WAS AFTERWARDS DUG UP BY GOVERNMENT OFFICERS WHEN DEEMED SAFE FROM ATTACK."

"DO I REMEMBER THE EVACUATION OF RICHMOND, WAS I WITH MR. DAVIS WHEN
HE WAS CAPTURED? YES, IREMEMBER OUR FLIGHT FROM RICHMOND AS IF IT WERE
YESTERDAY. IN EARLY APRIL 1865 WE ALL KNEW THE END WAS PROBABLY NEAR,
FOR GRANT WAS DOGGING GENERAL LEE'S TRACKS, AND OUR GENERAL WAS ABOUT
WORN OUT. I REMEMBER THE LAST SUNDAY WE WERE IN RICHMOND. GENERAL LEE
AND GENERAL GRANT WERE IN APPOMATTOX. THE CITY WAITED BREATHLESSLY FOR
THE NEWS. A PALL OF COMING DISASTER HUNG OVER US. MR. DAVIS WENT TO
CHURCH AS USUAL THAT MORNING, AND WHILE HE WAS GONE CAME A MESSAGE FOR
HIM. KNOWING IT TO BE IMPORTANT, I HURRIED TO THE CHURCH. THE FAMILY
PEW WAS AT THE VERY FRONT. WHEN I ENTERED THE SERVICES WERE PEING READ,
PUT THE CONGREGATION SEEING ME GOING WITH A MESSAGE TO THE PRESIDENT
KNEW THAT SOMETHING HAD HAPPENED AND WAITED. I PUT THE ENVELOPE IN MR.
DAVIS'S HAND; HE EROKE IT OPEN AND READ IT, THEN ROSE AND WALKED OUT OF
THE CHURCH. THE ENTIRE CONGREGATION FOLLOWED HIM. BUT HE SAID NOT A

WORD, ONLY WENT HOME. THE MESSAGE TOLD OF GENERAL LEE'S SURRENDER." MR. DAVIS, ATTENDED BY A SMALL TROOP AND SEVERAL OF HIS CABINET, AS WELL AS PURTON HARRISON, HIS PRIVATE SECRETARY, SET OUT ON HORSEPACK TO GO SOUTH. MY IDEA IS THAT THE PLAN WAS TO JOIN GENERAL JOHNSTON OR TO GO TO CUBA, EUT I NEVER KNEW FULLY. THE REST OF THE FAMILY LEFT TOWN ON THE TRAIN, JOINING MR. DAVIS WHEN THEY LEFT THE RAILROAD FAR SOUTH." WITHE CAPTURE TOOK PLACE NEAR IRWINVILLE, GEORGIA. WE MADE CAMP APOUT TWILIGHT, AND I REMEMBER THAT MR. DAVIS HAD A BAD ATTACK OF NEURALGIA, SO WENT TO REST EARLY. WE WERE IN THE WOODS OF PALM PINES, AND THE HORSES PICKETED TO THE WAGONS, AND THE WHOLE PARTY ASLEEP EARLY. FUT AS I HAD TO WASH SOME OF MISS WINNIE'S CLOTHES I REMAINED UP. IT WAS PRIGHT MOONLIGHT, AND I STOOD BY THE FIRE OVER THE TUB--IN FACT I BE-LIEVE IT WAS THAT VERY FIRE THAT GUIDED THE YANKEES TO OUR CAMP. WELL. ALONG ABOUT 3 O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING I SAW A MAN WITH A SABRE CREEPING THROUGH THE TREES. THE GROUND WAS SOFT AND HIS FOOTSTEPS MADE NO NOISE. BUT I KNEW IT WAS NONE OF OUR PARTY, SO I CALLED MR. HARRISON. I KNEW THAT THE YANKEES WERE TRYING TO CATCH MR. DAVIS, AND AS NONE OF OUR MEN HAD SABRES, IT SEEMED VERY PLAIN THAT THE MAN SKULKING ABOUT IN THE SHADOW OF THE PINES WAS AFTER US. PUT MR. HARRISON REFUSED TO CALL MR. DAVIS, THINKING I WAS UNDULY ALARMED. I THEN CALLED TO COLONEL LOVETT OF TEXAS, PUT HE ALSO REFUSED TO AWAKE MR. DAVIS. THEN I IN TURN TOLD MR. REAGAN, COLONEL WOOD AND GENERAL JOHNSTON BUT NOT A SQUL WOULD TAKE THE LIBERTY OF WAKING MR. DAVIS. PRESENTLY FROM OUT OF THE PINES. ON ALL SIDES COMPLETELY SURROUNDING US, RODE A BODY OF YANKEES. I KNEW THIS WAS THE END, I RAN INTO MR. DAVIS'S TENT, WHERE HE AND HIS WIFE LAY ASLEEP, AND I SHOOK HIM AND HE JUMPED UP. HE STARTED OUT OF THE TENT DOOR AND JUST A FEW FEET OUTSIDE STOOD A YANKEE TROOPER, WITH HIS GUN POINTING RIGHT AT MR. DAVIS. WHEN MRS. DAVIS SAW THIS SHE RUSHED OUT, HALF CLAD AS SHE WAS AND BEGGED THE MAN NOT TO SHOOT. I NOTICED THEN THAT I HAD BY MISTAKE PUT MRS DAVIS'S CAPE ON MR. DAVIS, SO I DARTED INTO THE TENT, GOT MR. DAVIS'S CAPE--TOOK OFF THE ONE HE HAD ON, PUT THAT ON MRS. DAVIS AND PUT THE ONE BELONGING TO MR. DAVIS ON HIM. IT IS THIS INCIDENT THAT STARTED THE FAMOUS STORY ABOUT HIM TRYING TO ESCAPE IN WOMENS CLOTHES. MR. DAVIS'S CAPE WAS ALMOST EXACTLY LIKE THAT OF HIS WIFE, AND MADE FROM THE SAME GOODS. HE ALSO HAD A SMALL SHAWL APOUT HIS HEAD ON ACCOUNT OF HIS NEURALGIA. WELL, AFTER I GOT THE CAPES RIGHT I KNEW ALL WAS UP, SO I SAID TO MR. DAVIS THAT HE HAD BETTER COME OVER TO THE FIRE AND GET A CUP OF COFFEE. HE AND I THEN WALKED OVER TO THE FIRE WHERE I HAD A POT ON BOILING, AND I HANDED HIM A CUP. AS HE STOOD DRINKING IT, COLONEL PRITCHARD WHO COMMANDED THE YANKEES CAME UP. "IS YOUR NAME JONES?", HE SAID TO ME. YES, I ANSWERED. "IS THIS MR. DAVIS'S CAMP?", HE AGAIN ASKED. IT IS I SAID. "WHERE IS MR. DAVIS?", HE AGAIN ASKED. HE IS THE GENTLEMAN STANDING HERE DRINKING THIS COFFEE, I MADE IN REPLY. COLONEL PRITCHARD THEN SPOKE TO MR. DAVIS AND THE TWO MEN MEN STOOD FOR SOME TIME IN CONVERSATION. MR. DAVIS NEVER WENT IN ANY WOMAN'S CLOTHING, NEVER WENT OUT WITH ONE OF THE SERVANTS PRETEND-ING HE WAS GOING TO THE SPRING, AND NO YANKEE EVER LAID HIS HAND ON HIM,

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R. OF THOSE TALES ARE ALL ROT. I WAS THERE EVERY MINUTE OF THE TIME: I SAW EVERYTING THAT WENT ON, AND WHAT I TELL IS THE WHOLE TRUTH ABOUT THE CAPTURE OF MR. DAVIS."

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"WE PACKED UP THEN AND WENT ALONG WITH THE YANKEES. I WAS THE ONLY ONE OF THE SERVANTS TO ACCOMPANY MR. DAVIS TO FORTRESS MONROE. YES SIR. THEY WERE STIRRING TIMES, AND WE WOULD HAVE WON, IF ONLY WE COULD HAVE GOT ENOUGH MEN. BUT THE YANKEES HAD THE MEN AND THE MONEY TOO."

AND THE OLD MAN'S VOICE DROPPED. "YANKEES" WERE EVIDENTLY HIS PET HOR-ROW YET. THE WIND BLEW CHILL UP THE HOLLOW AND SANG MOURNFULLY THROUGH THE TELEPHONE WIRES OVERHEAD. FAR OFF DOWN THE TRACK TWINKLED A ROW OF ELECTRIC LIGHTS, AND SWEEPING FY WITH A RATTLE, BANG AND GLARE, CRASHED A TROLLEY CAR. FUT THE OLD MAN HEARD IT NOT. HIS THOUGHTS WERE WITH THE STATESMEN AND SOLDIERS OF HIS YOUTH, WITH THOSE WHO HAD WRITTEN THE LIFE OF A NATION ON A HUNDRED BLOOD STAINED FIELDS, AND PERHAPS HE LONG ED TO BE AMONGST THEM. TO "CROSS OVER THE RIVER AND REST IN THE SHADE OF THE TREES."

Editors Note: Not having heard or read this very interesting story before, I became very interested in the "Great Seal of the Confederacy" and checked many reference books and several sets of encyclopedia before coming across any mention at all of the "Seal". The "Americana" devotes about a page and a half to the seal and its history and states that the seal is presently in the Confederate Archives of the War Department in Washington. The p The picture and description is very much as in the above story and its weight is give as "several pounds." As to how and where it was found, there is no mention. This would be a truly interesting project for some devoted historian to undertake. Perhaps someone among our membership will do so and share some of the knowledge with us. Many thanks to Howard Spain for this story.

MISSING MEMBER

IF ANY READER HAS THE ADDRESS OF SSG WILLIAM P. HUDON, THE EDITOR WILL BE HAPPY TO RECEIVE IT. ALL MAIL ADDRESSED TO HIM AT 30TH TRANS CO, APO N.Y. AND 245TH TRANS CO, APO N.Y. HAS BEEN RETURNED MARKED "NO RE-CORD" .

MAKING MONEY

IN THIS ISSUE WE CONTINUE THE PHOTOGRAPHIC REPRINT OF THE STORY "MAKING MONEY", TAKEN FROM HARPER'S NEW MONTHLY MAGAZINE, VOLUME 23, PAGES 735-747, NOVEMBER 1861, ARTICLE BY WALDO ABBOTT. THIS ISSUE CONTAINS PAGES 742-745. THE STORY WILL CONCLUDE IN THE NEXT ISSUE, VOLUME 8, NUMBER 2 OF THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST. OUR SINCERE THANKS TO RAYMOND H. WILLIAM-SON, LYNCHEURG, VIRGINIA FOR FURNISHING THIS STORY FOR OUR ENJOYMENT AND ENLIGHTENMENT. RAY IS A REGULAR CONTRIBUTOR TO THE VIRGINIA NUMIS-MATIST AND ALWAYS HAS HIS EYE OPEN FOR MATERIAL THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST TO OUR READERS. WE HOPE THAT ALL OF YOU WILL BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR AN ARTICLE OR STORY THAT MAY PE USED.

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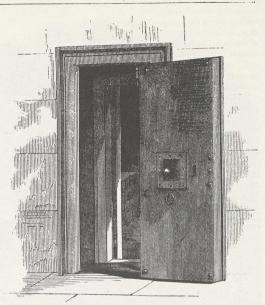
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It was, in fact, worth more than its weight in gold coin, of which our standard is '900; that of British coin being 22 carats, equal to about .916. If our deposit had been in foreign coin, with no counterfeits in it, about one-tenth part would have been alloy; if it had been jewelry or plate, probably it would have contained quite half alloy. As we chose to take our pay in coin, the cost of coinage is charged to us. The deduction would have been less if we had taken fine bars, as is usually done when the gold is wanted for exportation or deposit. The charges are made according to a fixed scale; varying for parting and refining with the character of the deposit; for fine bars it is 6 cents, and for coinage 50 cents, per hundred dollars. In four or five days after making our deposit it is assaved, its value ascertained, and we get our warrant for the payment in coin, for which, however, we must now wait a while. Formerly, when Uncle Sam was "flush," he used to keep a balance of a few millions in the hands of the Treasurer of the

tendent's warrants at once. But having met with some losses of late, and being subject to heavy expenses, he finds this inconvenient. In fact, he is "short." So we must wait for our money until the bullion can be sent to Philadelphia and coined. This will take twenty or payment, it is considered as the property of the



MELTER AND REFINER'S VAULT.

Assay Office, so that he could cash the Superin- | thirty days. But the hardship is not very great, as we can easily "make a raise," if need be, on our warrant.

Hitherto our deposit has been kept separate from all others. But now that its value has been ascertained, and we have a warrant for the

United States; and in the processes of refining is mingled with other deposits, losing its personal identity.

The operation of refining, which Mr. Kent now commences, is a repetition on a large scale of the delicate processes of assaying. The bars are melted in a large crucible, twice their weight in silver being add-The molten mass is dipped up, and flung, with a peculiar jerk, into a cistern of cold water. We have all, for one purpose or another, poured melted lead into water, and noticed the minute fragments into which the metal is di-The same thing vided. happens to the compound of gold and silver. It is divided into small portions, and looks not unlike a heap of shavings. This process is called "granulating," its object



GRANULATING.

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being the same as the rolling out of the assayslips, to allow every part of the metal to come in contact with the nitric acid, in which it is to be placed to extract the silver.

The water is drained off, and the granulated metal is taken to the "Parting Houses."— These are closets with sliding windows, which shut close in order to prevent the fumes from escaping. The bottom is a tank with steampipes around it. Here are placed large jars of porcelain, holding about twenty gallons. Into each is put 150 pounds of the metal. The nitric acid, which has been decanted from the carbovs in which it is held, is poured in-about ten



POURING OUT ACID.

gallons, properly diluted, to each jar. Six or seven the care must be taken in handling it, for it will en thousand carboys of acid, costing nine dollars each, are used in the course of a year. Great it touch them. It will not, however, act upon



India-rubber, and so they wear long gloves made of that material. The water in the tank, and with it the acid in the jars, is kept boiling by means of the steam-pipes for six hours. The fumes, prevented by the closed windows from

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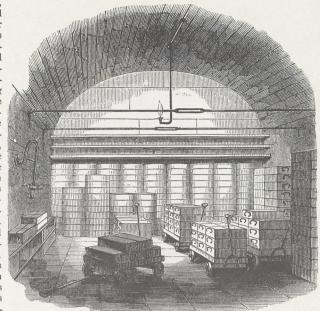
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passing into the room, escape through the tall chimney seen in our first illustration. This vapor presents a brilliant appearance, and many who see it suppose that vast quantities of gold are passing off into the air. The vapor, however, is nothing more valuable than nitrous acid. After boiling for six hours, the acid, or rather the combination of nitric acid and silver, which is nitrate of silver, is drawn off by a gold siphon, worth three thousand dollars, and a stronger dilution of acid poured in. This is boiled for another six hours, when all the silver is supposed to be taken up; it is drawn off, as before, and the gold is left in the jar. The nitrate of silver is now in the form of a dark fluid.

looking like a pale greenish ink. We shall meet it again.

The gold, which is in the form of a dark brown powder, resembling Scotch snuff, with no lustre or indication of its metallic character, is yet almost pure—probably '993 fine. It has been by this process purified as high as '995. It still contains a little nitrate of silver mixed with it, to remove which it is placed in a large tub, having at the bottom a strainer composed of layers of muslin and filtering paper. A stream of warm water is poured upon it, which



INTERIOR OF VAULT. -THE CHEESES.

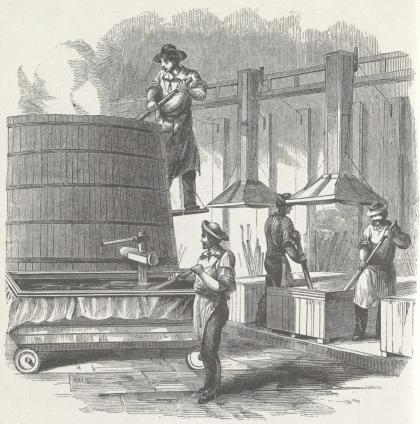
penetrates the mass, washing away the nitrate. In eight or ten hours it is thoroughly cleansed. It is then taken to a hydraulic press. About a peck is placed in a "stave" or mould. A pressure of two hundred tons is applied, which forces out the water through slits left in the stave, and compresses the powder into a solid cake, about twelve inches in diameter and three inches thick. The top and bottom of this cake present a dull yellow "frosted" appearance; but the sides, which have been exposed to friction, shine with metallic lustre. It looks like a fine yellow

cheese, by which name it is called. One of these gold "cheeses," however, weighs about sixty pounds, and is worth eighteen or nineteen thousand dollars. Twelve of them are made from the contents of one filtertub.

These cheeses, after having been baked in an oven, heated by steampipes, to expel any moisture that may remain, are taken down to the-" Fine Melting - Room," broken up, and melted. A little saltpetre and borax is thrown into the crucible, to extract any base metal which may have become mixed. It is turned into iron moulds, smoked with rosin and pitch to prevent adherence; oil is poured on the bar while cooling, to give it a good surface. It comes out in the shape of "fine bars," each weighing about seventeen pounds, and worth some five thousand dollars.



CASTING FINE BARS.



PRECIPITATING AND PARTING SILVER.

are cooled in a "pickle" of sulphuric acid diluted with water, which removes any oxydation of iron on the surface, and gives them a bright appearance. These bars are about .993 fine.

When the moulding is begun a cake of five or six ounces is east, and one notch is cut in it as a mark; when the last bar is cast another cake is made, and marked with two notches. These are called "assay pieces;" they are stamped with the number of the melt, and assayed, as before explained. Each bar is then weighed separately by the Bar Weigh-Clerk, who calculates its value from the weight and fineness, as reported by the Assayer. The number of the melt, the year of melting, the office where refined, the number of the bar, its weight, fineness, and value, are then stamped on every bar. These are now delivered to the Treasurer, who keeps a record of every one. Thus the bullion, which was delivered to the Melter and Refiner in various shapes, is now converted into "fine bars," refined, assayed, its exact value stamped on each, and is ready to be sent to the Mint at Philadelphia for coinage, or to be exported. For shipments bars are genermore convenient to pack, and there is a saving of the expense of coinage.

It will be remembered that two parts of silver were melted with every part of gold. This, dissolved in nitric acid, constituting nitrate of silver, was left at the "Parting House." The recovery of this silver forms one of the most beautiful operations in the Assay Office.

This nitrate, in the form of a greenish fluid, is poured into an immense tank, holding about 3000 gallons, in which has been placed a strong solution of common salt. Salt is a combination of chlorine and soda-its chemical name is chloride of sodium. Four substances are contained in this tank: silver, combined with nitric acid, forming nitrate of silver, and chlorine, combined with soda, forming chloride of sodium. A double chemical action takes place. Nitric acid has a stronger affinity for soda than for silver, and chlorine a stronger affinity for silver than for soda. The consequence is that the acid leaves the silver and unites with the soda, forming nitrate of soda; while the chlorine unites with the silver, forming chloride of silver. The chloride ally used in preference to coin, because they are of silver thus formed falls down, or is "precip-

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THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION INC. A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

OBJECT

THE OBJECT OF THIS ORGANIZATION, DEDICATED TO THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF NUMISMATICS IN VIRGINIA, SHALL BE TO EDUCATE, ENCOURAGE AND PROMOTE INTEREST IN NUMISMATICS, CULTIVATE FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIPS AMONG CLUBS, COLLECTORS, STUDENTS, AND DEALERS, AND TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION TO COIN CLUBS.

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CLUBS OR ORGANIZATIONS	\$7.50
REGULAR MEMBERS (under age 18 - \$2.00)	\$5.00
LIFE MEMBERS	\$75.00

APPLICATIONS FOR CLUB OR ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP MAY BE MADE BY ANY OFFICER OF THAT ORGANIZATION. INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS MUST BE ENDORSED BY ONE MEMBER OF THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION, IN GOOD STANDING. INDIVIDUALS DESIRING LIFE MEMBERSHIP MUST HAVE BEEN A REGULAR MEMBER FOR AT LEAST ONE YEAR AND WILL APPLY TO THE SECRETARY IN WRITING, ALL APPLICATIONS ARE SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARY ACCOMPANIED BY THE PROPER FEE. LIFE MEMBER APPLICATIONS ARE ACTED ON BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

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THE YIRGINIA NUMISMATIST



VIRGINIA

MAY 31 1972

STATE LIBRAR'

HIRAM BOWERS

RESIGNES AS EDITOR

VOLUME 8 NUMBER 2 1972

The VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

ALL MAIL RELATING TO THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO

DONALD ROBERTS, EDITOR P. O. BOX 353, HAMPTON, VA. 23369

ADDRESS ALL OFFICIAL MAIL OF THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION TO

RICHARD JONES, SECY.-TREAS.

P. O. BOX 1981 ROANOKE, VIRGINIA 24009

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DEDICATED TO THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF NUMISMATICS IN VIRGINIA



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TO:

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James M. Beard

PRESIDENTS PAGE

This is being written with mixed emotions: it is fine to say nice things about a friend, but you don't like to say goodby to him.

Hiram Bowers is leaving us after seven years as Editor of the Virginia Numismatist, plus serving as president of the Virginia numismatic Association.

I want to join with all the past and present members to say a heart-felt "thanks" to Hiram for his years of untiring efforts on

behalf of VNA.

This is being forced on him by the increasing demand of his work, the condition of his health and his desire to spend more time with his family. We respect his reasons, but we will surely miss him.

Hiram's interest in Virginia and southern materials was well known, but he also had a wide ranging view of other numismatic and historical matters.

He is a good man to be on a trip with -I don't think that I have ever missed seeing him at any VNA annual meeting I have attended since I have been a member.

All good friends must part sometime — but we are sorry to see Hiram go. We wish him well in all his future efforts.

JAMES M. BEARD 317 Miller Street Lexington, Virginia 24450 Phone 463-5186

IN APPRECIATION -

Did you ever stop to think that most of the time when nice things are said about a person it is done posthumously?

This time we want to say it while the man is around to hear. Hiram Bowers has put in uncounted hours, lots of sweat and plenty of headaches in the process of editing THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST for the last seven years. This was done in addition to earning a living, trying to raise a family and hopefully having a little time to himself.

Please, let all of us join with the officers and board members in saying a heartfelt "Thanks, Hiram, for a job well done."

PLEASE BE PATIENT . . .

There will be some transitional issues of THE VIRGINIA NUMIS-MATIST now that we have lost the valued services of Hiram Bowers as editor. Please bear with us, especially with the mailing problems; all are working on this.

A few changes in format that have been under consideration for some time will be tried. We hope that you will all like them. Also, the Board has authorized the use of certain types of advertising to help defray the rising costs of publication and postage.

There is a tremendous reservoir of information available in the membership of VNA, which would be of interest to all of us. We ask that you share it with us in the form of articles for our publication. Meanwhile, enjoy this beautiful spring weather.

CALENDAR OF COIN SHOWS

Name of Club and Location of Show	Dates
Shendoah Numismatic Society, Winchester, Va.	May 20 - 21
Northern Virginia Coin Club, Vienna, Va.	May 20 - 21
Metropolitan Washington Numismatic Association	
Washington, D.C.	July 14 - 16
Roanoke Valley Coin Club, Roanoke, Va.	July 28 - 30
Culpeper Numismatic Club, Culpeper, Va.,	September 9 - 10
Virginia Numismatic Assn., Virginia Beach, Va.	September 15 - 17
Middle Atlantic Numismatic Assn., Washington, D.	C. October 19 - 22

SECRET OF THE GREAT SEAL OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA, AS TOLD BY JAMES H. JONES, BODY-SERVANT TO PRESIDENT JEFFERSON DAVIS

We have received two very interesting and informative letters concerning this article and the Great Seal of the Confederacy, reported on in the previous issue of THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST. Permission has been requested to use the information given by these two gentlemen in a later issue. We thank them for sharing their knowledge with us in a matter that interests so many of our members?

WHY BELONG TO VNA?

We think that you will all be interested in and derive benefit from a statement presented to the Southside Virginia Numismatic Association at Petersburg, Virginia, by one of our valued members, Mr. L. K. Chavis:

Mr. President:

I was assigned the task of listing the advantages that our Club would derive from reinstating its membership in the Virginia Numismatic Association. I feel that this would not be necessary for dedicated Numismatists which we all claim to be. But I will try to state what I believe are the advantages to our Club in holding membership in the State Association.

They are the following:

- The VNA consists of individual members and member Clubs united in an organized body to promote Numismatics.
- The Association serves as a link between the American Numismatic Association and local clubs.
- 3. It serves as a sounding board or information center for Numismatic happenings in the State, through its bi-monthly publication THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST.
- 4. The Association provides a film library for member clubs.
- 5. The VNA holds annual convention where members can:
 - a. Exhibit collections in open competition (competing for treasured and coveted award plaques).
 - b. Survey and/or purchase numismatic materials from the bourse tables of any of a large number of dealers from many parts of the United States and Canada.
 - Takes part in a large coin auction conducted by a licensed auctioneer.
 - d. Have fellowship with Collectors having similar or different interests.
- The VNA provides a forum for the noteworthy activities of our Club. (Provided we mail the material into the editor of THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST).
- 7. It gives our Club status as well as sociological and numismatic input in collecting circles.

I believe that these are advantages not only for a member club but for individuals as well. I substantiate this belief by holding life membership no. 19 in the Virginia Numismatic Association.

Finally, I feel that if our Club is to be recognized outside our local community, then we should reinstate our membership in The Virginia Numismatic Association.

Thank you very much.

NEWS OF OUR CLUBS

SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

New officers for 1972 for the Club in Petersburg are as follows: President, Louis E. Doucet; Vice-President and Program Chairman, John T. Masterson; Sec-Treas., Mrs. Susan G. Masterson; and Auctioneer, Lawrence K. Chavis.

Board of Directors: Mrs. Beatrice Hand, Louis E. Doucet, Dr. Milton H. Kibbie, Nathaniel G. Sims, Lawrence K. Chavis, and Warren C. Rogers, Alternate.

ROANOKE VALLEY COIN CLUB

New officers for the Roanoke Club are: Mrs. Juanita L. Ware, President; H. A. Watson, Vice-President; Mrs. Susanne Pope, Secretary; Mrs. H. L. Tomlinson, Treasurer; Miss Brenda Robinson, Corr. Sec'y; and Dr. W. B. Healy, Chaplain. New Directors are C. R. Jackson and Harold Robinson.

Clarence Coleman, General Show Chairman, C. R. Jackson, Bourse Chairman, and O. B. Ware, Exhibit Chairman announced that plans are complete for the annual coin show sponsored by the Club to be held July 28, 29, and 30, in the new Roanoke Civic Center. It is expected that the "Collectors' Fair" show and sale will attract approximately 80 dealers from all parts of the country and will offer coins, stamps, antiques, guns, bottles and other collectors items. Admission will be 50 cents and door prises will be given.

MONTICELLO COIN CLUB

Much activity has been reported from the Charlottesville Club. A coin show was held on April 16th with 9 dealers present. An outstanding National Coin Week display at the show by Lionel Key was one of eleven displays by the Club members shown in various parts of town. This Club really supports Coin Week.

WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

The May program promises to be a numismatic first for the Washington area, and will be on "Exhibits". Scheduled for May 8th, at the meeting room of the Parish Hall in the St. Columba's Church, at 4201 Albemarle St., in N. W. Washington. Tables will open about 7:15 PM; the meeting starts at 8.

VIRGINIA PENINSULA COIN CLUB

At the April meeting of the Club in Hampton, the program was presented by Gary McSmith, assisted by his father, Duane. The father and son team are in charge of the club program for junior members. A portion of the program is carried in another part of this issue. We hope other clubs are following this example.

FOR THE YOUNG NUMISMATIST

One of the more important programs of VNA is the one for junior members. We ask that all members and clubs consider the juniors in their meetings and programs.

The ANA has started a program for the young numismatists in their

group, including a publication especially for them.

One of our own member clubs, the Virginia Peninsula Coin Club, has appointed Duane and Gary McSmith to head up their youth program. We are presenting herewith a program given to the Club by Gary, at the April meeting:

The Numismatics of QUEEN ELIZABETH

The Queen of England has her protrait on a larger number of different coins than any other figure. Elizabeth became queen with the death of her father, George VI, on February 2, 1952. Until her coronation on June 2, 1953, coins of her father continued to be struck. Between the death of her father and her coronation a new coinage was designed for her, as it has been for other English monarchs for centuries. Traditionally the portrait of the monarchs is uncrowned in Great Britain and in dominions. Colonies get coins with a crowned portrait.

The first designs for the new queen consisted of three major types:



For Great Britatn and the dominions, what is now called, "Young Head", was the laureate portrait of the Queen by Mrs. Mary Gillick (M. G. on neck). This design was liked by most of the young queen's subjects but some felt that her shoulder was a "little too bare" and a dress fold or strap was re-engraved on the near shoulder.



For the Colonies a crowned portrait. Both follow the long-standing tradition of having the portrait face in the opposite direction from the previous monarch.

The coronation crown depicted the queen on horseback and is the only coin with this obverse.

In 1965 a new obverse portrait by Arnold Machin was introduced. The Queen has more mature facial features and is wearing a tiara.



This design was first used on Canadian coinage but other British Commonwealth countries quickly adapted the design. The tradition of the crowned portrait for Colonies was dropped and this obverse is being used on most coinage that feature a portrait of Queen Elizabeth II. For Great Britain the changeover was made with the change to decimal coinage in 1968.

Collecting and studying coins of Elizabeth II, Queen of England, can be very interesting. Only four coins would be needed to show all major types of her protrait. Of course, this could be increased to include each type from each country which is fairly easy to obtain. All of the issues are shown in Yeoman's "Current Coins of the World".

Duane and Gary McSmith for Junior Numismatists

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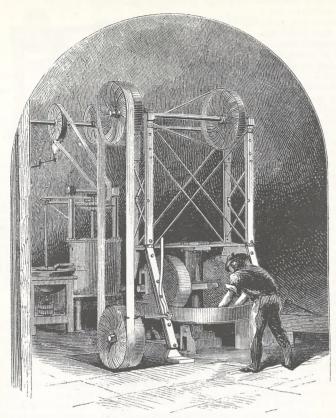
(Ref: Numismatic News, Mar. 1964, Whitman Coins of Canada and Yeoman.)



THE WORLD'S POPULATION CRISES inspired the theme of "Man on Earth", the 85th fine art medal just released by The Society of Medalists, Designed by Detroit sculptor Sten Jacobsson. It is described in an illustrated brochure available free from Mrs. Mary Louise Cram, Executive Secretary, The Society of Medalists, 35 West Branch Road, Weston, Connecticut 06880.

MAKING MONEY

In this issue we conclude the Photographic reprint of the story "Making Money", taken from Harper's New Monthly Magazine, Volume 23, pages 735-747, November 1861, article by Waldo Abbott. This issue contains pages 746 & 747. Our sincere thanks to Raymond H. Williamson, Lynchburg, Virginia for furnishing this story for our enjoyment and enlightenment. Ray is a regular contributor to the Virginia Numismatist and always has his eye open for material that may be of interest to our readers. We hope that all of you will be on the lookout for an article or story that may be used.



GRINDING AND SEPARATING THE DUST.

itated" in soft downy flakes, like falling snow, leaving the nitrate of soda separate. The nitrate of soda is soluble in water, while the chloride of silver is insoluble. When the new combination is complete, the contents of the tank are drawn off into large wooden filters; a stream of hot water is poured in; the soluble nitrate of soda, which also contains all the base metals of the melt, is held to be of no value; it passes off into the sewer and is lost, leaving the insoluble chloride of silver behind in the filter. This, when "sweetened" or washed free from nitric acid, resembles thick white paint, except that the surface, which is exposed to the light, is of a delicate purple. . A similar action of light upon the silver-coating of a copper-plate is the basis of the daguerreotype process. About 4000 bushels of salt are used up every year in this process.

When thoroughly "sweet," the chloride of silver is transferred from the filter to large leaden vats, in which has been placed a quantity of granulated zinc. Water is added, and another chemical action takes place. The chlorine, having a stronger affinity for zinc than for silver, leaves it, and unites with the zinc, forming chloride of zinc. This being soluble in water.

is washed away, not being worth preserving. A little sulphuric acid has been meantime added to destroy any surplus of zinc.

The silver, thus successively freed by purely chemical processes from nitric acid and chlorine, is in the form of a dull grayish powder, looking very like a heap of ashes. It is nevertheless almost pure silver, much finer than coin. This powder is "cheesed" by the hydraulic press, like the gold powder, and is deposited in the Melter's safe, to be melted up into bars, or used again for refining gold.

We have described only the processes of assaying and refining gold. Silver bullion does not, like gold, require to be refined; but after being assayed is sent to the Mint to be coined. unless it is required to be used for refining gold. The process of assay applied to silver is known among chemists as the humid assay. It is a very delicate operation, based upon the principle that a definite weight of a solution of salt, of known strength, added to a definite weight of silver dissolved in nitric acid, will precipitate a definite weight of chloride of silver.

leaves it, and unites with the zine, forming Before leaving the Assay Office we must dechloride of zinc. This being soluble in water, seend to the basement, and visit the "Sweep

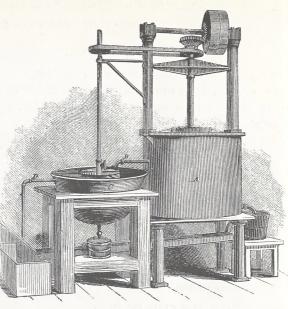
Room"-a dirty and disagreeable apartment, but a very important one, nevertheless. Here all the rubbish of the establishmentsweepings of rooms, ashes from the furnace, old crucibles, brooms, brushes, clothes, mittens, and so forth - are treated to extract the gold contained in These are first them. burned to ashes, then reduced to an almost impalpable powder in the "Grinding Mill," under heavy iron rollers weighing 2000 lbs.

This powder is then placed in the "Gold Separator"-a machine invented by Mr. Kent, the Melter and Refiner. The dirt is put into the circular vessel A, where the powder is ground still finer, by heavy iron rollers working under water, which is supplied in a continuous stream. The motion of the rollers keeps the mass in perpetual agi-

tation. The coarser particles of gold sink to the bottom; while the dirt, still containing some gold, being lighter, passes off with the water, through the pipe B into the basin C. the bottom of this basin is a quantity of quicksilver. The surface of this is kept bright and clean by a couple of paddle-wheels, which just touch it, and also keep the water in motion. Any particle of gold touching the quicksilver is instantly seized, while the water and dirt pass out at the top, through the waste-pipe D. For the right to use this Separator in all the United States Mints Mr. Kent received, by vote of Congress, \$20,000; but as the gold saved by it, beyond what was recovered by the old process, amounts to \$20,000 a year, the arrangement is a profitable one.

In the processes of melting, assaying, and refining, there is of course some waste, for which the Government makes allowance; but declares that it must not exceed two parts in a thousand of the amount operated upon. That is, unless the loss exceeds this proportion, the Melter and Refiner is deemed to have returned all that he received. The actual loss has always been considerably less. It is now reduced, by careful economy, to one-thirteenth part of the legal allowance, saving to Government in five years, up to December, 1859, \$191,151 55.

We have said that the amount of bullion which will pass through the Assay Office during the present year is estimated at one hundred millions of dollars. Let us try to give some general idea of the weight and bulk of the gold required to make up this sum. A cubic inch of fine gold | verted into coin of the United States.



KENT'S GOLD SEPARATOR.

weighs about 101 ounces, and is worth a trifle less than \$210; a cubic foot weighs about 1454 pounds, and is worth \$362,600. A hundred millions in fine bars will measure about 273 cubic feet, say two and one-seventh cords. If east into a solid cube, each side would measure about six and a half feet. Our coinage is of "standard gold," the ten-dollar piece weighing 258 grains. A million dollars in coin weighs nearly 4479 pounds Troy, equivalent to about 3685 pounds avoirdupois, or more than one and three-quarter tons. A keg 13½ inches high, 10 inches at the heads, and 111 at the bilge, will hold about \$50,000 in gold coin. Two thousand such kegs would be required for \$100,000,000. Gold in grains occupies about twice the space that it does when cast into bars. It is said that in California gold dust was for a while sold by the pint, this measure holding 142 ounces, worth \$2500. A hundred millions in California dust would measure 40,000 pints, or 625 bushels. After all, the coin which any depositor would be likely to carry with him makes no very great bulk. Into a box measuring on the inside 10 inches long, 8 wide, and 5 high, \$36,000 in gold coin can be packed. A bag 6 inches by 9 will hold \$5000, leaving room to tie. Silver coin occupies a little more than twenty-five times the bulk of gold coin of the same value.

We have now followed the bullion from the time of its reception in the Weigh-Room until it has been converted into "fine bars." Next month we propose to follow some of these bars to the Mint in Philadelphia, and see them con-

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THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION INC. A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

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OBJECT

THE OBJECT OF THIS ORGANIZATION, DEDICATED TO THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF NUMISMATICS IN VIRGINIA, SHALL BE TO EDUCATE, ENCOURAGE AND PROMOTE INTEREST IN NUMISMATICS, CULTIVATE FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIPS AMONG CLUBS, COLLECTORS, STUDENTS, AND DEALERS, AND TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION TO COIN CLUBS.

MEMBERSHIP

CLUBS OR ORGANIZATIONS
REGULAR MEMBERS
LIFE MEMBERS

DUES

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	\$75.00
LIFE MEMBERS	Ψ, σ, σ, σ

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THE YIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VIRGINIA JUL 17



VOLUME 8 NUMBER 3 1972 р g b S

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 8

NUMBER III 1972

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All mail relating to THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST and ADVERTISING therin should be directed to THE EDITOR, P.O.Box 353 Hampton, Virginia 23369.

Direct all other Correspondence about Membership, Address Changes, etc. to the Secretary RICHARD JONES, P.O.Box 1981 Roanoke, Virginia 24009.

DISPLAY ADVERTISING RATES

SIZE	1 - TIME YEAR (6	-ISSUES)
1/ Page	\$9,00	\$42.50
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/ ₂ Page	\$14.00	\$95.00
Full Page	\$20.00	¢120.00
Inside Front or Back Cover	\$25.00	\$120,00
Outside Back Cover	\$30,00	\$140.00
(Non - Contract Advertising accep	ted in the order received, providing sp	ace is avail-
able Please reserve space early) All	Advertising copy must be typed.	

PURILISHING SCHEDULE

ISSUE	ADV, DEADLINE	PUBLICATION DATE
Volume 8 Number IV	June 15, 1972	July 10, 1972
	Aug. 15, 1972	Sept. 10, 1972
Volume 8 Number VI	Oct. 15, 1972	Nov. 10, 1972

Advertisers please note: No Ads will be accepted from Minors without their Parents Consent, All Ads must have Numismatic Significance. Special or Unusual copy requirements will be Billed extra. If in doubt, please write for details.

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PRESIDENTS PAGE



James M. Beard

Now that Summer is here, the Coin Shows are getting into high gear. There have already been some shows, and from all indications, coin collecting is again on the rise. There are plenty of shows still on the schedule so try to attend the ones in your area. You will be glad that you did. V.N.A. is again going to try to act as a clearing house for coin shows in Virginia. So if your club is planning a show please write V.N.A. to make sure that the date has not already been scheduled by

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another club. We urge all clubs that are planning a show to do this. It will make all the shows better.

Last year at the convention held at Natural Bridge Hotel, we introduced the Silver and Bronze medals commemorating the Botetourt Court House, with all the profit going to help restore this Historical Building. It is with great pleasure that I announce that this year we will have available to all V.N.A. members a "Virginia Numismatic Association Lapel Pin" with the V.N.A. emblem on it. It is of the same design that appears on the reverse of the Botetourt medal, except that it is smaller. More information will be published about this in future issues of the Virginia Numismatist.

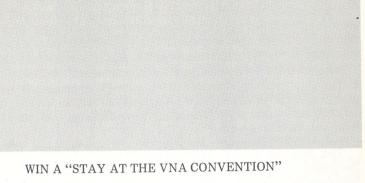
You will notice as you read this that the type is more legible and different from the previous issues of the Virginia Numismatist. It is another step in our continuing efforts to help make V.N.A. the finest state organization in the Country. We are also going to start accepting advertising with the next issue.

All of our members are asked to help sell chances on the gold coins to be given at our convention. The Club Representative Chairman will handle this project. Also, all members are asked to try to sell ads for the program. The profit from these helps to pay the expenses of our convention.

Jim Beard President, VNA

1972 DUES

We regret that this will be the last issue mailed to those members who have not paid their dues for 1972. Please, all who for some reason have overlooked this, send your check to the Club Secretary.



This year, in order to help defray the cost of our Annual Convention, we ask your help to increase the sale of tickets for our donated raffle of gold coins.

To do this we are having a contest and offering a prize to the person

selling the most tickets.

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The prize will be a double room for two days, with two meals a day (including the Annual Banquet) at our 14th Annual VNA Convention at the Cavalier Hotel in Virginia Beach, Virginia. You may order a supply of tickets from the Virginia Numismatic Association at P. O. Box 353, Hampton, Virginia 23369.

-We will announce the top ten standing in the July issue of the Virginia Numismatist, so you can see how you stand. The contest will close Sept. 10,

1972, and the winner will be announced.

Thank you and Happy Selling!

Al Walters Convention Chairman

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

The By-Laws of the Virginia Numismatic Association provide that an Election Committee shall present a slate of officers for each expiring elected office not later than July 15th of each year. During the period June 15th through July 15th additional nominations may be accepted from any member in good standing. Names of all nominees are to be published during the month of August and voted on by mail or at the Annual Convention in September, by ballot.

The following offices are open for nomination: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms, and seven (7) members of the Board of Directors. All offices are for a period of one (1) year except that of the Secretary-Treasurer is for two (2) years.

The By-Laws further provide that election of the last three Past Presidents, who remain active and in good standing, to the Board of Directors is automatic. Those automatically elected will be: Hiram L. Bowers, Robert M. New, and James M. Beard.

Send all nominations of the Secretary between June 15th and July 15th.

INDEPENDENCE DAY OFFERING AT WILLIAMSBURG

Of special interest to Virginians is the announcement that the first official American Revolution Bicentennial Philatelic - Numismatic Combination, featuring a national medal and a quartet of new stamps, will be released at Willimasburg on July 4th.

The announcement notes that the PNC is a joint effort of the Bureau of the Mint, the United States Postal Service and the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission and that the package will constitute the first ARBC-sanctioned collector's item of the Bicentennial Era.

As many as three may be ordered from the San Francisco office at \$5.00 each, starting July 1st. A maximum of two million has been set.

CALENDAR OF COIN SHOWS

Name of Club and Location of Show	Dates
Metropolitan Washington Numismatic Association Washington, D. C.	July 14 - 16
Roanoke Valley Coin Club, Roanoke, Va.	July 28 - 30
Covington Coin Club, Covington, Va.	August 12 - 13
Culpeper Numismatic Club, Culpeper, Va.	September 9 - 10
Virginia Numismatic Assn., Virginia Beach, Va.	September 15 - 17
Rockingham Coin Club, Harrisonburg, Va.	September 23 - 24
Middle Atlantic Numismatic Assn., Washington, D. C.	October 19 - 22

THE GREAT SEAL OF THE CONFEDERACY

You all remember the story of a boy throwing a pebble in the still water and how far the ripples went — one of the articles in Issue No. 1 of this year made a lot of ripples! The newspaper articles furnished by Howard Spain related a story told by James H. Jones about the Secret of the Great Seal of the Confederate States of America. Hiram asked for additional information from the membership and it was forthcoming quite promptly.

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Mr. Kurt Brandenburg, Director of the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond, advised us that the Great Seal is on display at the Museum. He invited all interested persons to come there and see it, along with the other exhibits. He also sent a copy of an editorial published in the Richmond News Leader in 1921, entitled the "Myth of the Great Seal", which is included in this issue. We decided to make a special trip to Richmond to see the Museum and the Great Seal, after talking to him on the phone. We found it well worth the time and hope that many other VNA members will visit there, too.

Following the editorial is an article sent us by VNA member Everett K. Cooper, from Shrewsberry, Pennsylvania. He had prepared this as a talk several years ago for a Civil War Roundtable, but it has not been published before. We are pleased to present his "The Confederate Seal."

We understand that several other members are interested in giving information on this matter also, and are looking forward to hearing from them.

THE MYTH OF THE GREAT SEAL

While it is not surprising that the death of James Jones should revive the myth that he alone knew where the great seal of the Confederacy was buried, it is remarkable, to say the least, that this absurd story should be published in the city where the great seal is on exhibition and may be seen at any time by anyone who visits the Confederate museum.

The story of Jones probably was an hallucination, or at least was a lie so often repeated that its author came to believe it fact. Jones may have seen the seal. He certainly never had it in his possession. The facts, with which all who know Richmond are familiar, are duly set forth in the "Southern Historical Society Papers" for 1916, in an article by William B. Smith, of The News Leader staff.

By a joint resolution, approved April 30, 1863, the Confederate congress adopted a "seal for the Confederate states." This seal was to represent the equestrian statue of Washington in the Capitol square and was to be surrounded by a wreath showing the principal agricultural products of the Confederacy. Soon after the resolution was passed, Judah P. Benjamin,

secretary of states, instructed James M. Mason, Confederate commissioner to England, to have the seal cut in silver. Mr. Mason entrusted the work to J. S. Wyon, maker of the great seals of England. On July 6, 1864, Mr. Mason notified the state department that the seal was ready and, with its equipment, was being shipped to Richmond. It passed the blockade and arrived in September. Here it remained until the time of the evacuation, when the seal was carried from Richmond by the wife of William J. Bromwell, clerk in the state department. Hidden for some time in a barn near this city, the seal ultimately was secreted in Washington. In 1872, John J. Pickett acted as Mr. Bromwell's agent in selling to the United States government for \$75,000 certain archives of the Confederate department of state which Bromwell had removed from Richmond at the same time his wife escaped with the seal. The agent of the United States government in negotiating for the sale of the papers was Lieutenant Thomas O. Selfridge. As a "token of appreciation" to Lieutenant Selfridge for his activity in promoting the sale of the papers, Mr. Pickett gave him the great seal. The gift was kept secret, however, and was not known until the personal papers of Mr. Pickett had been acquired by the library of congress and had been examined by Gaillard Hunt. References in the papers indicated the true facts. Selfridge, who by that time was a rear-admiral, retired, admitted that he had the seal. Mr. Hunt rightly enough thought that such a treasure should be in Richmond and communicated the whereabouts to the treasure to Eppa Hunton, Jr., of this city. With William H. White and Thomas P. Bryan, Mr. Hunton began negotiations and purchased the seal for \$3,000, subject to proofs of its authenticity. J. St. George Bryan carried the seal in person to England and showed it to Allen J. Wyon, engraver to the king, who had succeeded to the business of his uncle, J. S. Wyon, maker of the original seal. After inspection of the seal, Mr. Wyon wrote the following certificate:

"I have carefully examined the seal sent to me by Mr. Thomas P. Bryan, an impression of which is affixed above, together with the hall marks thereon and the engraving on the rim. I have also compared it with wax impression which has never left my studio, and I have no hesitation in stating that in my opinion there is no doubt that the seal which I have examined is the Great Seal of the Confederate States of America, which was engraved in silver by my uncle, Mr. J. S. Wyon, in the year 1864."

The seal itself, the various certificates and all the correspondence were presented the Confederate museum in 1912 and have been seen by tens of thousands. The more's the pity that the absurd story of James Jones should be circulated once more — and least of all in Richmond, where the facts are common property.

(Editorial from The Richmond News Leader, April 9, 1921)

ine confedenate seal

by EVERETT K. COOPER

Symbolic of the "Lost Cause" is the great seal of the Confederate States of America. Inspired by the birth of the new nation, cavalier in design, and failing in fulfillment it does come closest to being the true symbol of this valiant government and people.

The Provisional Congress of the Confederacy, meeting in Montgomery, among its many first duties was to appoint a committee to prepare a design for a national flag and "to report a device for a great seal of state and also arms and a motto for the Confederacy". This committee was appointed on February 9, 1861. Pending the report from this committee the Provisional Government adopted a seal which was a simple device representing a scroll with the words CONSTITUTION above and LIBERTY beneath. This temporaty seal, however, turned out to be more of a permanent seal as it was used on all official papers during the entire war and at the fall of Richmond was carried away by Secretary of State Judah P. Benjamin. Its final resting place became the bottom of the Savannah River to prevent its capture.

Urgency of many other matters, including the more important need of a flag design, delayed the report from this committee on the design of a permanent seal. Secretary of State Benjamin urged Congress to finalize this project and on January 22, 1863 suggested a design. Benjamin wrote "I propose for our seal a 'Cavalier'. Let it be copied from our equestrian statue of the noblest cavalier of the south. A copy of Washington as mounted on his charger on the monument in Capitol Square." Benjamin then gave numerous reasons for the use of the equestrian Washington. The public press ridiculed Congress for its delay, the Augusta Weekly Chronicle & Sentinel on March 3, 1863 wagishly suggested for a principal design a "Turtle" and the legend "Never In Haste". Finally on April 30, 1863 Congress passed the resolution "To Establish a Seal for the Confederate States." The resolution stated "that the seal of the Confederate States shall consist of a device representing an equestrian portrait of Washington, surrounded by a wreath composed of the principal agricultural products of the Confederacy. (cotton, tobacco, sugar cane, corn, wheat, and rice) and having around its margin the words 'The Confederate States of America, Twenty-Second February, Eighteen Hundred Sixty-Two', with the following motto 'Deo Vindice'. (Deo Vindice translates God Our Defender).

Lacking any such establishment to produce such a state seal Secretary Benjamin wrote James Mason, representative in England, to have such produced in that country. Benjamin added that the equestrian Washington should be based on earth and not a statue base, express the date in numbers

and not words, and the agricultural products be limited to cotton, rice, and tobacco.

On receiving these instructions Mr. Mason secured the most eminent sculptor in England, a Mr. Foley, to prepare the design. However, the project still was plagued by delay. The design was placed in the hands of Mr. Joseph S. Wyon, Chief Engraver of Her Majesty's Seals, who was executing it in silver and bestowing upon it all the pains so important a work demands. Mason wrote from London on July 6, 1864, "I have the pleasure to inform you that I send by Lieutenant Chapman, Confederate States Navy, who bears this, the seal of the Confederate States, at last completed." The seal packed in a small box, carried in a weighted valise by Lieutenant Chapman as he traveled to Bermuda via Halifax. From Bermuda through the blockade, ever ready to throw it overboard in the event of capture, it was delivered to Secretary Benjamin on September 4, 1864.

Necessary for the use of the seal was a bulky iron press and a supply of wax wafers and other materials. They left England on the same steamer as Lieutenant Chapman but not under his direct care. They were consigned to the Confederate agent, a Major Walker, in Bermuda. These more bulky items were transferred to blockade runners three times in a vain effort to get through to Wilmington, North Carolina but failed each time. Hence, for the lack of the press and supplies, which Secretary Benjamin failed to even order, the great seal was never used.

The bill from Joseph S. Wyon for a silver seal, ivory handle, box with spring lock, screw press and supplies totaled 122 pounds 10 shillings and was paid July 6, 1864.

When Richmond was evacuated, a Mr. William Brownell, Chief Clerk of the States Department, packed numerous department papers and the seal which he hid in a barn near Richmond. Later the seal was moved from its hiding place to another hiding place in Washington, D. C. In 1868 Brownell contacted a prominent ex-Confederate and now a Washington lawyer, Colonel John Pickett, regarding the State Department papers. Lawyer Pickett opened negotiations with the Federal government for the sale of these important records after they had been removed to a safer location in Canada. The U.S. representative was a Navy Captain Thomas O. Selfridge and in April 1972 the sale was consumated at a price of \$75,000. As a token of appreciation Colonel Pickett presented Captain (later Admiral) Selfridge with a personal souvenir - the great seal. The gift was kept secret at the time. However, in 1873 Pickett borrowed the seal from Captain Selfridge and had 1,000 electrotype copies made, finished in silver, bronze, and gold, which he sold as momento of the "lost cause". Thus, these became the only use ever made of the seal.

The secret gift came to light when the personal papers of Colonel Pickett were acquired by the Library of Congress. Admiral Selfridge, now retired, admitted that he did have the seal. Negotiations were initiated to return this treasure to Richmond. Led by former Confederate General Eppa Hunton's son the purchase was made for the sum of \$3,000, subject to proof of its authenticity. The seal was taken back to England and examined by Allen J. Wyon, successor to Joseph S. Wyon. After inspection a certificate was issued by Mr. Wyon, with an impression of the seal affixed, verifying the authenticity of the seal. So in 1912 the seal was openly returned to Richmond.

In 1921 a story gained wide circulation on the death of James Jones, former coachman for the Jefferson Davis family, and who was present at the capture of Davis. Jones before his death made it publicly known that he alone knew where the great seal was buried. The obvious untruth of such a story, particularly when the object itself was on public display, marked the end of any romantic legend of the great seal.

Today the silver seal and ivory handle are on prominent display at the Confederate White House in Richmond, Virginia. The iron press still rests in Bermuda at the Darrell residence Mount Wyndham. The electrotype copies prepared by Colonel Pickett are occasionally seen in museum collections or treasured relics of southern families or Civil War collectors.

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VNA wishes to thank it's valued member Everett K. Cooper for making this artical available to its members.

GLEANINGS

EDITORIAL — from NATION'S BUSINESS, May 1972 LOOPHOLES and RATHOLES

Once again, politicians are making noises about closing so-called loopholes in the tax laws.

The object is to get more money from middle income taxpayers — and from business, of course.

The drive is prompted by ever rising government spending.

Maybe instead of looking at "loopholes", they should look at the ratholes through which so much of our taxes disappear.

THE MORE THINGS CHANGE

Back in 1836, the Tax Foundation reminds us, the federal government was stuck with an embarrassing surplus. The national debt had been paid off two years before, and yet the money kept rolling in faster than Congress could find ways to spend it.

As a way out of the difficulty, Congress decided to distribute most of the surplus to the states, with the stipulation that the money would have to be repaid on demand. No demand ever was made, and now Congress is considering a bill to convert the loans to grants.

Up to this point the story seems only a piece of nostalgia, one that strains the imagination in the current era of enormous federal deficits. And yet, as the story progresses, there are elements of similarity.

When the government decided to distribute the surplus in that long-ago day, it pulled the money willy-nilly from the private banks where it was deposited. The outflow of funds forced the banks to contract credit, and that helped to bring on the Panic of 1837. The panic in turn shrank the federal surplus so swiftly that soon there was no money left to hand out to the states.

In short, the federal government of that earlier day can be charged with seriously mismanaging its finances. The more things change, the more some things seem to stay much the same.

VOX POPULI

While sitting here slaving over a hot typewriter we were prey to some wandering thoughts about our hobby, and we would like to know what our readers think about them.

How about dropping us a line with your ideas? You can either say: "Fur", "Agin", "Don't care" or expound on your thoughts at length. Later, we can give more items for your reaction:

- 1. Programs for the juniors.
- 2. To be able to buy and hold gold coins in collections.
- 3. Issue new commemorative coins, under proper conditions, being guided by past mistakes.
- 4. Educational programs.
- 5. More reasonable prices for U. S. silver dollars (not clad).
- 6. Issue commemorative coins for the bi-centennial in 1976.
- 7. Issue a special \$2.00 U. S. Note for the bi-centennial.
- 8. Club meetings support and gain from.
- 9. Buy paper money from the B of E & P as now buy stamps.
- 10. Prices for sale of C C dollars now held in West Point current market or based on value when these are released? Remember what happened to prices when others were let go?

NEWS OF OUR CLUBS

Shenandoah Valley Coin Club

President Brown reported at the meetings held at the National Bank and Trust Co. in Fishersville that the 8th Annual Coin Show held at Staunton was very successful. New Club officers are: President, Robert Brown; Vice-president, Malcolm Reid; Treasurer, Berlin Diehl; Secretary, James Oberg. Board of Directors members are: Robert Brown, Malcolm Reid, Berlin Diehl, James Oberg, William Alwood, William Irvine and Frank Cacciapaglia.

Covington Coin Club

The Covington Club is making plans for the coin show to be held in August. Bourse chairman is Mrs. Dell Haymaker and exhibit chairman is Jim Beard.

Rockingham Coin Club

One of our newer clubs, the Rockingham Club is now planning for their tenth annual coin show at the Armory in Harrisonburg in the later part of September. Meetings are held the second Monday of each month at the Electric Commission Building in Harrisonburg. Membership is about 70 and they have good attendance at the meetings. Officers are: President, George Miller; Vice-president, Sidney Spitzer; Secretary, Larry Edwards; Treasurer, Phil Sharps; Coin Grader, Clarence Neff and Auctioneer, C. N. Wine.

Virginia Peninsula Coin Club

One of the VNA slide programs "The Die Varieties of Early Quarters" was shown this month. In addition to the What's Your Coin Game, the raffle and committee reports, a new Club Bid Board was started for the members and visitors. A list of the books in the Club library was distributed with the club newsletter this month.

Tidewater Coin Club

The program for this month's meeting was presented by John Gearhart of Hampton, one of the VNA speakers group. This club will be the host for the VNA annual meeting at Virginia Beach in September.

IF NEWS OF YOUR CLUB IS NOT LISTED ABOVE CHECK WITH YOUR SECRETARY AND MAKE SURE THAT VNA IS ON YOUR MAILING LIST. WE CANNOT PUBLISH IT IF WE DO NOT RECEIVE IT!

ANA NEWS

The American Numismatic Association has just announced the reaching of two milestones in its history:

Fredric Mantei, Jr., was to become the one thousandth life member of ANA in May 20 ceremonies at the Empire State Numismatic Association Convention set for May 19 - 21 in Saratoga Springs, New York. John Jay Pittman, president of ANA was to personally present the one thousandth life memberhsip certificate and gold card to Mr. Mantei. Of the one thousand life members recorded in ANA files, 828 of them are shown to be active.

Second, President Pittman announced that the long awaited ANA Certification Service will be activated on June 15th, to receive coins for examination as to authenticity. Three former U. S. Mint employees will form the initial staff. The address of ANACS is P. O. Box 87, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, D. C. 20044.

Our congratulations to ANA for both of these achievements.

COLLECTORS SUGGESTOINS ASKED

Unity Bank of Canada is open to suggestions as to just what a brand-new banking organization could do to interest collectors and hobbyists when it comes time to open a network of branches across Canada.

The Unity Bank of Canada incorporation was approved by Parliament last month. It now becomes the country's 10th federally chartered bank.

They are asking your advice as to what this new Canadian financial institution could do to serve the global group of specialists — the majority of whom can comfortably afford to indulge in the numismatic hobby — with attractive items that will whet their collective appetites? Also, with prime material unique enough to be cherished, held and retained as true pieces of Canadiana?

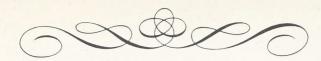
Interested readers are asked to send suggestions to us or directly to: Mr. Robert T. Smylie, Unity Bank of Canada, 100 Adelaide Street West, Toronto 110, Ontario, Canada.

U. S. Treasury MAKING MINT OFF NEW COIN

The U. S. Treasury stands to make nearly \$600 million in profits by selling collectors versions of Eisenhower silver dollars at \$3 and \$10. Treasury Secretary John B. Connally brought up the subject Wednesday at a session of the Senate Appropriations Committee and said: "The profit we're making on sales of the Eisenhower dollar is just unconsciosable, that's the truth."

Connally didn't have the exact figures on the profits but the U.S. Mint did: Last year the mint sold 10,400,980 of the coins bearing the likeness of the late President, for a total of \$58.2 million. Total costs, including manufacturing, application blanks and mailing, were \$17.8 million. Profit equaled \$40.4 million.



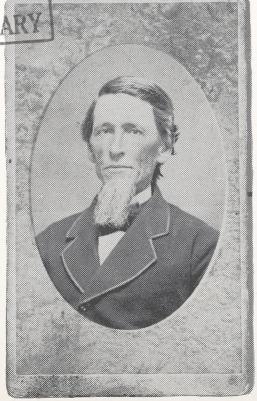


THE YIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VIRGINIA

JUL 19 1972

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VOLUME 8 NUMBER 4

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 8

NUMBER IV 1972

The VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST is the Official Publication of The Virginia Numismatic Association, Inc. and is published six times each year. Articles and Items for publication are welcome and Solicited. All six issues are mailed from Hampton, Virginia at the Third Class Postal Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure and send us your Change of Address.

All mail relating to THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST and ADVERTISING therein should be directed to THE EDITOR, P.O.Box 353 Hampton, Virginia 23369.

Direct all other Correspondence about Membership, Address Changes, etc. to the Secretary RICHARD JONES, P.O.Box 1981 Roanoke, Virginia 24009.

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Advertisers please note: No Ads will be accepted from Minors without their Parents Consent. All Ads must have Numismatic Significance. Special or Unusual copy requirements will be Billed extra. If in doubt, please write for details.

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE



Convention time is almost here again. The VNA Convention and Coin Show will be held at the Cavalier Hotel on Sept. 15, 16 and 17, in Virginia Beach. Let's all get out and attend this year so that it will be the biggest and best convention that we have ever had. Mrs. Mary Brooks, Director of the Mint, will be our guest speaker at the Banquet. We would like to have a "Full House" for her.

Enclosed with this issue is a form to fill out for the ones that want to enter an exhibit at this year's show. There will be awards given

for "Best of Show", "Charles Affleck Award" for the best paper money display and "Outstanding Awards" for the next seven (7) best exhibits. These exhibits help to make the show a success. So if you are planning to exhibit, please fill in and return your form to "Foots" Byer as soon as possible so that he can allot the space required for your exhibit. They will be on a first come, first served basis with a possible limit depending upon space available.

Starting with this issue, The Virginia Numismatist will have ads from dealers and collectors in it. This is another method that can be used to obtain the coins or currency that you may need, or to sell your duplicates. If you are interested in placing an ad, write to the editor for additional information.

Also, enclosed with this issue is a form to use to sell ads for the Convention Program. This ad will only appear in the special Convention Program and is not to be confused with the Virginia Numismatist. Please try to sell some of these ads to your favorite Department Store, Grocer, or friends and neighbors. All the profit from this will go to help finance the convention.

Our editor, Don Roberts, is still in need of articles of interest for the Virginia Numisamtist. If you have any articles, send them to him so that everyone can share them with you. These articles can be from a program that you have presented to your club or from a display write-up that you have used.

Jim Beard, President VNA

VNA MEMBERSHIP PIN

VNA is pleased to announce that a membership pin will be available at the Convention in September. These are pins picturing the official VNA emblem. They will be available with either a pin back or clutch back fastner. A picture and prices will be available in the next issue of the Virginia Numismatist.

GLEANINGS - PART I

The Journal of the American Medical Association reported that a scientific study found incontrovertibly that money is dirty.

The medical journal quoted a Louisville School of Medicine study of 62 pennies, 38 nickels, 27 dimes, 33 quarters and 50 paper bills of small denomination. The study found that 13% of the coins and 42% of the bills were contaminated by bacteria that potentially could produce disease. Pennies, nickels and small denomination bills tended to be filthier than larger coins and bills, probably because of the more rapid turnover, the reporter said.

Among some tongue-in-cheek suggestions made by the scientists to avoid the filthy lucre: If you must carry money, carry only bills of \$50 and \$100 denominations; keep your hands out of your pockets; get rid of your money rapidly; campaign against children's piggy banks.

The researchers offered to examine and dispose of contaminated money sent to them, in the interest of research, of course.

GLEANINGS - PART II

Canadian coins and paper money are safer to handle than their U. S. counterparts, according to Dr. Wayne McKinney, a pediatrics resident at a Toronto hospital.

After reading a report in the Journal of the American Medical Association that 13% of U. S. coins and 42% of the paper currency handled by Americans were contaminated by potential pathogens, Dr. McKinney decided to determine how Canada's coin and paper money of the realm stacked up against these U. S. disease carriers.

Using a comparable technique to that reported in the AMA Journal, he tested over 100 coins and bank notes, collected from his wife, children and friends. His tests showed that only 10% of Canada's coins and 35% of her paper money were contaminated, proving that Canada is a healthier place in which to live and make money.

Of course, he said, his test is by no means conclusive, and he advises that any Yankee who wishes to get rid of their dirty money may send it to him. "I have special facilities for taking care of it," he advises.

GLEANINGS - PART III

"There are microbes on your money"
These grave scientists declare,
With a smile serene and sunny,
And a manner debonaire.

"There are ptomaines and bacilli, Getting rich is very rash. You will meet them, willy-nilly, Every time you handle cash." Yet there comes an acclamation,
Loud and mighty, through the air,
Which arouses this great nation
Like a lion from its lair;

There is heard a stern assurance,
Told in no uncertain terms:
"We are wonders of endurance,
We are not afraid of germs."



4th of July in Williamsburg

Independence Day was stamp and medal day in Williamsburg this year as the first American Revolution Bicentennial Philatelic-Numismatic Combination was presented to the public. About 7,500 collectors, tourists, honeymooners and curious holiday visitors to the Colonial Capital watched the three part ceremony starting at eleven am in front of the Colonial Post Office and Printing Shop. City, State and National groups were represented on the speaker's platform. Next was the Militia and Fifes and Drums Muster at Market Square Green, a program usually presented on the Fourth. The final phase was a prayer for peace in front of the entrance to Bruton Parish Church on Duke of Glouchester Street.

Stamp and first day cover collectors started their day several hours earlier when the local post office opened for them to buy stamps and have first day covers marked with the Williamsburg post mark.

Collectors are reminded that the stamp and medal combination can be ordered from San Francisco at \$5.00 per unit.

APPLICANTS FOR REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

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The following individuals have applied for membership:

Applicants Leslie David Fetty, Norfolk, Va.

Arthur C. Faires, Richmond, Va. Owen T. Merwin, Jr., Norfolk, Va.

Thomas E. Snider, Jr., Virginia Beach, Va. William T. Coffey, Lexington, Va.

Reinstate: E. T. Register (No. 390), Washington, D. C.

The Museum of the Confederacy-Richmond, Firginia

The Museum is located in the White House of the Confederacy, 1201 East Clay Street, Richmond. This historic building served as the official residence of Confederate President Jefferson Davis during the War Between the States. Since 1896 it has housed the Museum and has been the head-

quarters of the Confederate Memorial Literary Society.

The house was begun in 1817 by Dr. John Brockenbrough, a prominent Richmond banker. Robert Mills, a leading American architect of the day, provided the architectural designs. The building combines Greek and Roman motifs and is a fine example of the classic revival style. From 1818 to 1861 the Brockenbrough house, as it was then called, was one of Richmond's finest private houses. During these years various improvements were made. On June 11, 1861, the City of Richmond purchased the mansion house, its furniture and grounds and tendered them to His Excellency Jefferson Davis,

President of the Confederate States, for his "use and occupancy."

The Confederate Government rented the house and President Davis and his family resided there from August 1, 1861 to April 1, 1865. During these years the White House of the Confederacy became a social as well as a political center. On the second floor, in the President's private office, the Confederate Cabinet met regularly. Receptions were frequent during the first two years of the war and were attended by everyone not in deep mourning. In the spring of 1864, tragedy visited the house when little Joe Davis, the President's five year old son, fell to his death from the porch of the mansion. Less than one year later, on the first Sunday in April, President Davis and the entire Confederate Government evacuated Richmond, leaving the city and their White House to the disposition of rapidly advancing Union forces.

After the war the house served first as United States Military Headquarters, District Number 1 (Virginia), and later as a Richmond public school. In 1894 it was acquired by the Confederate Memory Literary Society. The Society fire-proofed and restored the building and rededicated it as the Confederate Museum, a "Treasure House of Confederate history and relics."

Today the Museum of the Confederacy is primarily a museum of Military history, exhibiting artifacts, paintings and documents of the Southern side of the Civil War. Among its collections are the sword and uniform worn by General Robert E. Lee when he surrendered the Army of Northern Virginia at Appomatox Courthouse, the personal pistol of President Jefferson Davis as well as many other uniforms, swords, flags and various pieces of military equipment worn, carried and used by the Southern soldiers in gray.

In addition to its voluminous military collections, the Museum owns and displays varoius historical items of a general nature. These include the Great Seal of the Confederate States of America, the Provisional Constitution of the Confederate States and personal affects of President Jefferson Davis.

To emphasize the important historical character of the White House of the Confederacy, the Museum presents several rooms as they might have appeared during the occupancy of President Jefferson Davis. These Highstyled Victorian rooms contain examples of furniture, fabrics and bric-a-brac originally used in the Confederate Executive Mansion. The reference library of the Museum, situated in the modern facilities of the lower floors contains manuscripts, books and newspapers of the Confederate peroid and is available to students, historians and writers.

The Museum is open Monday through Saturday from 9 am to 5 pm and Sunday from 2 pm until 5 pm. To help support these activities, a small admission fee is collected at the door. (Information from the Museum).

NEWS OF OUR CLUBS

Alexandria Coin Club

The Alexandria Coin Club is planning for its annual coin show to be held at the Howard Johnson Motor Lodge, Interstate 495 and Route 1, Alexandria, Virginia, on October 28 - 29, 1972. Bourse Chairman is Marvin J. Loeb, 5021 Seminary Road, No. 1419, Alexandria, Virginia 22311.

Shenandoah Valley Coin Club

Jim Oberg reports that the club held its June meeting on Monday, June 12th, at the National Bank and Trust Company in Fishersville, and that membership has reached an all time high in the history of the club. Our congratulations to all who have made this possible.

Tidewater Coin Club

Officers for the present year are as follows: President, Milton Becker; Vice-President, Ted Maronlis; Treasurer, Robert New; Secretary, Jeffrey E. Locke; Ass't Treasurer, Sam Ungar; Sergeant at arms, John Dunning; and completing the Board of Directors is James Boyle. One of the VNA speakers presented a program at the June meeting.

Monticello Coin Club

We mentioned it before, but we want to repeat our congratulations to the Club in Charlottesville for all the work they did in connection with National Coin Week this year. They reported a coin show, displays in 15 banks, and publicity in local newspapers and on the radio. These folks were really working on coin week.

Virginia Peninsula Coin Club

At the meeting in Hampton, interest in and use of the club library was urged on the members. One of the VNA speakers presented a program: "Be Informed", following the business meeting. Other items were: What's Your Coin Game, a Raffle and a Bid-Board.

VNA ANNUAL CONVENTION NEWS

The numismatic highlight of the year in Virignia, the 14th Annual Convention of the Virginia Numismatic Association, will take place at the Cavalier Hotel, Virginia Beach, Virginia on September 15, 16 and 17. Be sure to come and enjoy the numismatic fellowship at this outstanding event.

Bourse

Admission to the bourse is free and all are invited. Ray Haymaker, this year's chairman, advises that tables are almost sold out. A wide range of materials will be available.

Exhibits

Be sure to get in touch with Chairman Ernest "Foots" Byer, at P. O. Box 71, Glen Wilton, Va. 24438, to arrange for space for your exhibits. Awards will be made for the following: "Best of Show", "Charles Affleck Award" for the best paper money exhibit and seven (7) "Outstanding Awards" for the next seven top awards without regard to category.

Dinner Speaker

We are greatly pleased to announce that Mrs. Mary Brooks, Director of the Mint, will be the speaker for the annual banquet Saturday night. This gracious lady has been wife, mother, business woman, politician, banker—and was appointed by President Nixon in March, 1969 to be the 28th Director of the United States Bureau of the Mint. She is the third woman to fill this important position. As Director of the Mint and its six field institutions, Mrs. Brooks heads one of the fastest growing and technologically expanding government bureaus.

Auction

Joe Gallo of Alexandria Coin Sales will again hold our annual auction. He is now working on gathering a wide variety of materials to whet your collecting appetite. All materials will be on display prior to the sale.

Annual Banquet

The banquet will be held Saturday night following the social hour and is always the highlight of the Convention. Following the excellent dinner will be the installation of the officers for next year, presentation of awards and exhibit plaques and our featured speaker, Mrs. Mary Booksr, Director of the Mint.

Annual Business Meeting

As usual, the annual business meeting of the Virginia Numismatic Association will be held at the Hotel on Saturday, September 16th. Time and place of the meeting will be announced.

VNA Lapel Pins

The new VNA Lapel Pins for regular and life members, designed by Frank Hannah, will be on sale at the Convention. Be sure to get yours!

"Rag-pickers" Get-together

Last but not least, don't forget that on Saturday night, following the banquet, the "rag-pickers" will assemble for their annual get-together.

Hotel Accommodations

Please remember that all of us staying at the Cavalier Hotel will have to arrange with them for rooms — and remember, first come, first served.

Convention Program Ads

All members are urged to sell or take an ad in the convention program. The profit from these will go to help finance the Convention.

THE BOTETOURT COUNTY COURT HOUSE MEDALS

We have been advised that the last 100 of the total issue of 1,000 silver medals with serial numbers have been ordered, with delivery expected in the near future. All of the profits of medal sales will go to the fund for restoration of the historic old Botetourt County Court House that was destroyed by fire. Interested persons are urged to secure the numbered sets of silver and bronze, while the limited issue lasts.

VNA TO PUBLISH NEW BOOK

President James M. Beard is pleased to announce that VNA will publish a book on the "Interium Certificates" issued by depositaries located in Virginia during the Civil War. The author of this book is Douglas M. Ball—a long time member and booster of VNA. All of the profits from the sale of these books will be turned over to VNA.

President Beard pointed out that while this is a rather specialized subject, VNA is proud to be able to add this to its growing list of publications, which are helping to promote the numismatics of Virginia.

There will be 600 numbered books printed, and will be available in either soft or hard back. It will contain approximately 50 pages the same size (8½" x 11") and appearance as the other two volumes VNA has published.

The soft back version will sell for \$2.50 while the hard back will sell for \$4.95, plus tax and shipping. In keeping with its policy of offering a discount to its members, VNA will offer members the hard bound version with their membership numbers for \$4.00 each plus tax and shipping. This offer will expire September 30, 1972.

The book will go on sale on September 15th at the 14th Annual Convention of the Virginia Numismatic Association. Mr. Ball will be on hand during the Convention to autograph your personal copy should you so desire.



MRS. MARY BROOKS - 28th DIRECTOR OF THE MINT

It is our pleasure to announce that the speaker for the annual banquet on Saturday night will be Mrs. Mary Brooks, Director of the Mint.

As Director of the Mint and its six field institutions, she is responsible for the manufacture and distribution of an adequate supply of coinage to meet the daily needs of our continually growing economy. Other activities which come under the supervision of the Director of the Mint concern the safeguarding of the Government's holdings of monetary metals, the refining of gold and silver, coinage for foreign governments, the manufacture of medals for the armed services, and the manufacture and sale to the public of medals of historic interest and special coin sets of numismatic interest.

Mrs. Brooks was born in Colby, Kansas and reared in Gooding, Idaho. She attended Mills College in California and received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Idaho. She is the daughter of former United States Senator John Thomas of Idaho and served as his Administrative Assistant, prior to his death in 1945. Mrs. Brooks also worked in the family banking chain over the years before the chain was sold to the First Security Corporation. She has managed and developed a large sheep and cattle range in Idaho.

In addition to her business activities, Mrs. Brooks has served various political offices and appointments at both the State and National level. She has two children and six grandchildren. She was appointed by President Nixon in March, 1969 to be the 28th Director of the Bureau of the Mint, the third woman to fill this important position.

Just recently, she spent a whirlwind week at the Seventh International Conference of Mint Directors in Great Britain. Mint executives came from behind the Iron Curtain as guests. Guess who made immediate friends with them, and ended up with the only presentation set of Russian coins? Mrs. Brooks!

Notes on the Hillsville Savings Bank by JAMES A. JOHNSON JR.

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Some time ago I noticed that although "Johnson" is one of the most frequently found names in the United States, it is rarely seen as a signature on Virginia paper money. As a bearer of that name I was delighted to discover the bold, clearly readable signature of J. B. Johnson, who signed as Cashier on the notes issued by the Hillsville Savings Bank in 1862. Although I can claim no relationship with the signer, it was my good fortune to meet some members of his family a few years ago and I was excited to learn that they had preserved some of his family papers of the Civil War period.



Included in these papers were about 75 Hillsville Savings Bank notes, most of them ragged and many fragmentary. It is from this source that I am able to add a few details, and speculations, to the factual coverage given to this issue in "Affleck, Vol. II".

The Hillsville Savings Bank was incorporated by an Act of the Virginia General Assembly in 1852 with an authorized capital of \$30,000. One of the original directors named in the Act was Robert C. Johnson, probably the father of the 1862 cashier. As a Savings Bank it was not authorized to issue its own notes. So far as I have been able to discover, it was the only bank chartered in Carroll County before 1865.

The Johnsons operated the leading store in Hillsville, the county seat of Carroll County, which lies in the rugged Blue Ridge Mountains on the Virginia-North Carolina border. The people of the area were of an independent mountain stock who judged a man much more on his performance than on his promises. (Local tradition claims that Nancy Hanks, the mother of Abraham Lincoln, was from this county.)

The General Store was the center of daily activity for the area — buying the produce of the County and furnishing the spartan needs of the people from its stock. Special items for its clients were ordered from distant metropolitan areas. It is natural that the Savings Bank would be a part of this service, and it is probable that it was located in a section of the store. Mr. Johnson, as cashier, attended to the day-to-day banking activities — they were probably not extensive — as well as to his duties as a merchant. In the 10 year period before 1862 the institutions earned for itself a reputation as the financial center of the community.

With the coming of the Confederacy, and the resulting chaos of the money supply, all coin was hoarded. Small change became virtually non-existant. In other areas some individuals issued fractional scrip notes (which were often worthless a few days later they came out) to supply the demands of commerce. When some astute people realized that the Savings Banks were not specifically barred from issuing fractional currency, as were chartered State Banks, a few of these institutions issued notes, backing them with their resources and their reputation. It is a tribute to the integrity of the Hillsville Savings Bank that it was chosen to issue this emergency money in Carroll County, rather than have the county government issue it as provided by the Virginia Act of March 29, 1862.



The Savings Bank selected St. Clair's Power Press in Wytheville, Va., about 30 miles away, to print its notes. St. Clair had developed quite a business in southwest Virignia, printing notes for counties, banks, and private businesses. They used a white dense paper which was relatively brittle because of its short fiber content and a filler. This caused their notes to have a beautiful appearance when new, but in circulation they quickly became frayed and torn where creased. Many of the circulated Hillsville Savings Bank notes seen were glued to scraps of paper, ranging from contemporary newspaper to hymn book leaves, in order to keep them spendable.

All of the Hillsville Savings Bank notes were signed by J. B. Johnson, cashier and Jno. Wilkinson, President. Denominations selected initially were 10 cents, 15 cents, 50 cents, and \$1. A little later notes of \$1.50 and \$2.50 were added. The first four denominations were cleverly selected so that by using a combination of them, change could be made for any amount divisible by 5 cents.

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Each note was printed in black ink on white paper and carried one or more large vignettes in addition to the script verbage. A large red overprint highlighted the denomination. The vignettes on the various denominations are described in Affleck, but it is rather interesting that the \$1.50 note was exactly like the 10 cent note and the \$2.50 note was exactly like the 15 cent note except for the denomination and overprint. Ten 10 cent, 15 cent, and \$1 carry the imprint "St. Clair's Power Press, Wythvillee, Va.," at the lower left. The 50 cent, \$1.50 and \$2.50 have no imprint.

There are two distinctly different types of red overprints used on each of the four lower denominations. These will be more fully covered under the discussion of the dates of issue and minor varieties.

The earliest issue date is April 1, 1862 and notes of 10 cents, 15 cents, 50 cents, and \$1 were issued. The large red denomination overprint, all in numerals except the \$1 which was ONE, was of the ornate type — somewhat similar to the P. T. Barnum type face so loved by Victorian ad makers. The day of the month was written in, although April, 1862 was printed. All notes were hand numbered and signed.

More notes were soon needed and a second issue was made on April 20, 1862 of the 10 cent, 15 cnet, and 50 cent notes. These were of the same type and overprint as the April 1, 1862 issue.



Again on April 26, 1862 another issue of the 10 cent, 15 cent, 50 cent, and \$1 notes was made, identical except as to date with the first two issues. In addition, on this date a 10 cent note appeared with a plain "10" (rather than the ornate) overprint. This note carried no serial letter. It was a note of this type that was written up some issues ago in the Virginia Numismatist

with the endorsement on the back certifying that "This note is County fit . . .". It is understandable that the difference in style of overprint could casue this misunderstanding. The endorsement was not added, however, until the note had been broken and torn by circulation and ha dbeen glued to paper backing.

A single 50 cent note with plain overprint and no serial letter was seen dated April 30, 1862. This and the 10 cent plain of April 26th could have been from specimens submitted showing the new type of overprint. After this date all notes issued carried the plain type denomination overprint.



On May 21, 1862 all of the \$1.50 and \$2.50 denominations were issued. All had the plain overprint. The only printing error found on Hillsville Savings Bank notes is seen on some of the \$1.50 notes where "May" is spelled "Muy".

The final issue of notes was made on August 6, 1862 in denominations of 10 cents, 15 cents, 50 cents, and \$1, all with the plain overprint. These differed from previous notes in that the month (Aug.) was hand written and the notes carried a serial letter. The \$1 was serial A; the 50 cent - Serial B; the 15 cent - Serial C; and the 10 cent - Serial D. It is probable that all four of these denominations were printed on a single sheet, although no uncut sheets have been located.

There is no way to acertain exactly how many notes were issued by the Hillsville Savings Bank, for from analysis of the serial numbers seen on the various issues, it appears that the bank started again at 1 (or some other low number) for several separate issue dates. The amount could not have been large by today's standards for the high number seen on the 10 cent denomination was No. 3838. This denomination appeared in greater quantity than the others. High numbers seen on other denominations were 15 cents — No. 2039; 50 cents — No. 1503; \$1 — No. 1263; \$1.50 — No. 1898; and \$2.50 — No. 836. Some numbers as low as 12, 39, and 54 were observed.

Within a matter of months after these beautiful notes were put incirculation inflation had progressed so rapidly that small denomination notes

were virtually worthless. Laws were passed by the State and the Confederacy outlawing these private issues to try and build confidence in the CSA issues. There is evidence, however, that Mr. Johnson continued to redeem these notes when tendered for quite some time. Today the notes are scarce—perhaps more so than Affleck rates them in his rarity assignment—indicating that most of them were worn out or redeemed.

Other papers seen in this group dealt with Mr. Johnson's multiple business activities in the store and savings Bank. There were invoices, for such diverse items as horse feed, harness, flour, and fine cloth for making dresses. Included were claims Mr. Johnson made to the CSA Treasury Department in Richmond for arrears due to the families of deceased Confederate soldiers. There was the receipt for the purchase of a slave as late as December 1864, probably protecting the Bank's interest in a loan, and a few letters regarding legal matters.

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Today no surviving relative remembers J. B. Johnson as he appeared physically, and details of his personal life have faded into the fragmented half memories of the oldest members of his family. There remains, however, the bold J. B. Johnson signature on the notes of his Savings Bank to stand as a monument to this man. He served his community, his state and his government in a time so filled with chaotic crises as to stun the mind of modern man. His performance outshown his promises.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1972-1973

The By-Laws of the Virginia Numismatic Association state that an Election Committee, appointed by the President shall present a slate of Officers and Directors for each expiring elected Office, not later than July 15th of each year. Additional nominations for any open office may be accepted from any member in good standing. Names of all nominees shall be published during the month of August and voted on by mail or at the convention in September, by Ballot.

The nominating committee presents the following slate of Officers.

President	
1st Vice President	
2nd Vice President	Brent Hughes
Secretary-Treasurer	(Not Open)
Sargent-at-arms	A. R. Walters
Director	Charles J. Afleck
Director	
Director	Ernest Byer
Director Ja	mes M. Killingsworth
Director	Walter L. Mason
Director	Howard E. Spain

The By-Laws provide that election of the last three Past Presidents who remain active and in good standing, to the Board of Directors is automatic. Those who fall in this catogory are:

Hiram L. Bowers, Robert M. New and James M. Beard

CALENDAR OF COIN SHOWS

Name of Club and Location of Show	Dates
Metropolitan Washington Numismatic Association Washington, D. C. Roanoke Valley Coin Club, Roanoke, Va. Blue Ridge Numismatic Association, Charlotte, N. C. Covington Coin Club, Covington, Va. Culpeper Numismatic Club, Culpeper, Va. Virginia Numismatic Association, Virginia Beach, Va. Rockingham Coin Club, Harrisonburg, Va. Middle Atlantic Numismatic Assn., Washington, D.C. Alexandria Coin Club, Alexandria, Va.	July 14-16 July 28-30 August 2-6 August 12-13 September 9-10 September 15-17 September 23-24 October 19-22 October 28-29

VNA QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING

The regular quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Virginia Numismatic Association will be held at the Cavalier Hotel at Virginia Beach, Virginia, at 1 pm, July 29, 1972.

WANTED - VIRGINIA

- PROOF BANK NOTES PROOF VIGNETTES PRIVATE SCRIP
- - IRON FURNACE SCRIP

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VNA AUCTION SET

Joe Gallo of Alexandria Coin Sales has again been chosen to conduct the Annual Auction at the VNA convention and Coin Show at the Calalier Hotel in Virginia Beach on September 16, 1972. The highlight of the Auction will be more than 250 pieces of Virginia Paper Money from the famous George Wait collection.

WE ARE ACCEPTING ADDITIONAL CONSIGNMENTS OF U. S. COINS AND PAPER MONEY FOR THIS AUCTION

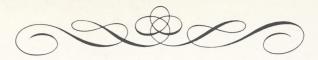
Gold Coins are enjoying a period of unsurpassed popularity due in most part to the sharp rise in the price of Gold Bullion on the World Market. We are in the market to BUY collections or accumulations of Gold Coins for resale. We are willing to pay top dollar for any nice quality coins. Just ship with your best price or for our immediate cash offer.

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THE YIRGINIA NUMISMATIST



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Interim Depositary Receipts

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Funding Certificates

issued in

The Commonwealth of Virginia 1861-1865

by Douglas B. Ball

The VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

ALL MAIL RELATING TO THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO

DON ROBERTS, EDITOR
P. O. BOX 353, HAMPTON, VA. 23369

ADDRESS ALL OFFICIAL MAIL OF THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION TO:

P. O. BOX 1981

ROANOKE, VIRGINIA 24009

VNA ELECTED OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - JAMES M. BEARD

1ST VICE PRESIDENT - GEORGE K. MOREHEAD

2ND VICE PRESIDENT - DONALD ROBERTS

SECRETARY & TREASURER - RICHARD JONES

SERGEANT AT ARMS - AL R. WALTERS

LEXINGTON, VA.
MOSELEY, VA.
HAMPTON, VA.
ROANOKE, VA.

HAMPTON, VA.

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THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

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The VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST is the Official Publication of The Virginia Numismatic Association, Inc. and is published six times each year. Articles and Items for publication are welcome and Solicited. All six issues are mailed from Hampton, Virginia at the Third Class Postal Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure and send us your Change of Address.

All mail relating to THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST and ADVERTISING therein should be directed to THE EDITOR, P.O.Box 353 Hampton, Virginia 23369.

Direct all other Correspondence about Membership, Address Changes, etc. to the Secretary RICHARD JONES, P.O.Box 1981 Roanoke, Virginia 24009.

DISPLAY ADVERTISING RATES

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Outside Back Cover	\$30.00 \$140.0	00
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able Please reserve space early). All		

PUBLISHING SCHEDULE

ISSUE	ADV. DEADLINE	PUBLICATION DATE
Volume 8 Number VI	Oct. 15, 1972	Nov. 10, 1972 Jan. 10, 1973
Volume 9 Number I	Dec. 15, 1972 Feb. 15, 1973	March 10, 1973

Advertisers please note: No Ads will be accepted from Minors without their Parents Consent. All Ads must have Numismatic Significance. Special or Unusual copy requirements will be Billed extra. If in doubt, please write for details.

VNA has on file the names and addresses of all Advertisers. Any complaints or requests for information regarding advertisers should be referred to The Virginia Numismatic Association at P.O. Box 353 Hampton, Virginia 23369. The right to edit copy, to require payment in advance, and to decline any advertisment is specifically reserved.

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE



Convention time is here again. My year as president has been an enjoyable one so far and will end with this year's convention. I want to thank all the members for their co-operation, which has made this an easy year for me. I am sorry that I was unable to attend all the fine coin shows in the State this year but did manage to attend most of them.

The show held recently at the Roanoke Civic Center was probably the biggest and best attended show with over 3,000 people registered. The hard working members are to

be praised for this fine show.

The last shipment of 100 silver Botetourt medals, which brings the total to the maximum of 1,000 silver medals, is in now. Anyone that has not purchased a set yet should get in touch with Bill Hannah or send to P. O. Box 353, Hampton, Virginia.

Al Walters, convention co-ordinator, states that everything is going well and promises that this will be the best convention ever. Mary Brooks, Mint Director, will be guest speaker at the banquet with Grover Criswell as the Master of Ceremonies. All the bourse tables have been sold for this year.

At the last Board of Directors meeting held at the Cavalier Hotel at Virginia Beach, it was decided that the 1973 convention be held at the Natural Bridge Hotel. V.N.A. has been invited to help share in the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the purchase of Natural Bridge by Thomas Jefferson with the striking of a medal in silver and bronze with Natural Bridge on one side and the V.N.A. emblem on the other.

I would like to thank the officers and directors for the usual fine job that they have done to keep V.N.A. the organization that it is now.

Don't forget that we will have the V.N.A. membership pin and the new book "Interim Certificates" available at the convention or by mail order.

Jim Beard V.N.A. President

BOTETOURT COUNTY MEDAL

It is our pleasure to announce that the last 100 of the serially numbered silver medals have been delivered to VNA. These will sell in sets with matching numbers for both silver and bronze at the Convention. This is a limited issue of 1,000 with all profits going to the fund to restore the hsitoric old Botetourt County Court House that was destroyed by fire.

GLEANINGS

As our Country approaches its 200th year, we thought that these two items were worth repeating:

Let's Hear The Good Side For A Change

No wonder the world seems sick when most of the news we read or listen to features crimes, war, drug abuse, accidents, protest demontsrations or strikes. But there is a positive side of life that is worth remembering if you think ours is really a sick society.

A newspaper publisher, Charles Gould (San Francisco Examiner), cites

the following statistics for 1970-71:

1. More than 196 million people were NOT arrested.

- 2. More than 49 million students did NOT riot or petition to destroy our system;
- 3. More than 9 million young men did NOT burn their draft cards;
- 4. More than 75 million citizens and corporations paid more than \$160 billion in income taxes;
- More than 115 million people were formally affiliated with religious groups.

Gould also said "Never before in history has a people accomplished so much, given so much, and asked for so little . . . Our society is far from perfect, but it is also far and away the most enlightened, most unselfish, most compassionate in the world's history.

". . . Let those apostles of despair who preach hate and disorder ask themselves what they have done and are doing for the good of their loved

ones, their nation, and the world."

Washington's Prayer For His Country

Almost two centuries ago, the signers of the Declaration of Independence struggled with fears, doubts, war. We have similar problems today. However, our forefathers were strengthened by the Jeffersons, Franklins and Washingtons.

This strentgh is exemplified by a prayer uttered by George Washington:

"Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning and pure manners.

"Save us from violence, discord, and confusion, from pride and arrogancy, and from every evil way.

"Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes

brought out of many kindreds and tongues.

"Endue with the spirit of wisdom those whom in Thy name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be peace and justice at home, and that through obedience to Thy law, we may show forth Thy praise among the nations of the earth."

CONVENTION NEWS

Be sure to come and attend the numismatic highlight of the year in Virginia, the 14th Annual Convention of the Virginia Numismatic Association—to be held at the Cavalier Hotel, Virginia Beach, Virginia on September 15, 16, and 17.

1

Bourse

Ray Haymaker, this year's chairman, advises that all tables are sold, Admission to the bourse is free and all are invited. A wide range of coins, medals, currency and supplies will be available for the dealers.

Exhibits

Chairman Ernest ('Foots' Byer, states that excellent exhibits will be on hand for your pleasure and information.

Auction

Be sure to see the display of auction materials arranged for by Joe Gallo of Alexandria Coin Sales — then try your luck at bidding.

Annual Business Meeting

The time and place of the Annual Business Meeting of the Virginia Numismatic Association will be announced. Be sure that your ballot for the election of officers is in the hands of the secretary before this meeting.

VNA Lapel Pins

For the first time, members will have a lapel pin for VNA. They will come for both regular and life members, with different fastenings, and will be on sale at the entrance.

Medals

The final shipment of the last one hundred of the silver numbered Botetourt County Court House medals will be on sale at the Convention. If you missed it last year, be sure to get your set this year. Profits go to help rebuild the court house that burned.

New Book Published

The third book release, "Confederate Interim Depositary Receipts and Funding Certificates Issued in the Commonwealth of Virginia 1861-1865", authored by Douglas B. Ball will be on sale. They will be less expensive at the Convention.

C. C. Dollar Display

Arrangements are underway with the GSA for a display of the Carson City dollars now stored in the depository at West Point.

12 Minute Film

The GSA has in preparation a 30 minute film about life in the West during the gold and silver mining days. A 12 minute film showing part of the material to be included in this will be shown at the Convention.

Social Hour

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A social hour will be held before the annual banquet. This will be included in the cost of the dinner ticket.

Dinner Speaker

We are very happy that Mrs. Mary Brooks, Director of the Mint, will be the featured speaker for the annual banquet Saturday night. Come and hear the lady who holds this important position. It will be a good idea to get your dinner tickets when you register, to be sure to get a seat.

Annual Banquet

The banquet will be held on Saturday night following the social hour and is always the highlight of the Convention. Master of Ceremonies will be Grover C. Criswell, one of the ANA Governors. After the excellent dinner will be the installation of officers for the next year, presentation of awards and exhibit plaques and our featured speaker, Mrs. Mary Brooks, Director of the Mint.

"Rag-Pickers" Get-Together

On Saturday night, following the banquet, the "rag-pickers" will assemble for their annual get-together.

Club Representative Breakfast

The annual club representative breakfast will be held Sunday morning. Be sure your Club Rep. is present.

Our thanks to this year's hosts, the Tidewater Coin Club, of Norfolk, and to the many persons whose unselfish work has made all of this possible!

VNA Membership Pin

For the first time, VNA will have a membership pin — now you can let others know that you are a collector and a member of our fine state club. They will go on sale at the entrance to the Convention, in several versions: regular member's pins will come with clutch back, pin back and a loop for a chain or a bracelet and will sell for \$3.50. Life members' pins will contain a small stone to mark the difference from the others, and will cost \$5.00. Be sure to get yours and wear it at the Show.

News of our Clubs

Alexandria Coin Club

The Alexandria Coin Club is in the final stages of planning for its annual coin show at the Howard Johnson Motor Lodge in Alexandria, October 28 - 29, 1972.

Shenandoah Numismatic Society

Charley Affleck reports that the tenth annual Coin Show in Winchester was successful and enjoyable, with good attendance and good material for trading, buying and selling. This is always a good reason for a fine trip to the mountains.

Tidewater Coin Club

Summer is fun time for the Norfolk area: the Club had its July meeting at the home of Jim Boyle, on Ocean View Avenue; and the August one at the Larchmont Public Library, with a program on Counterstamps on Ancient Coins. These folks are the sponsoring Club for our Convention at Virginia Beach this year — they hope to see you there.

Washington Numismatic Society

The folks in Washington are enjoying the summer, too: At the June meeting various exhibits by members were featured, while at the July meeting the theme was a Numismatic Tour Around the World. Since many of the members were at the ANA meeting in New Orleans, no August meeting was scheduled.

Metropolitan Washington Numismatic Association

We have no official report, but from talking with people who attended, we understand that the Washington Area group put on their usual excellent Convention in July.

Shenandoah Valley Coin Club

Jim Oberg reports that the Club held two of its summer meetings in Fishersville, with special warm weather programs.

Virginia Peninsula Coin Club

At the summer meetings in Hampton: in July Mr. James Johnson came from Richmond and presented an excellent program covering some of his collecting interests, with special emphasis on Virginia materials; for the August meeting, Mr. C. Alton Lindsay shared an interesting account of 60 Years of Mistakes.

Will all of the secretaries of all VNA member clubs be sure to send a copy of your club bulletin to: The Editor, VNA, P. O. Box 353, Hampton, Virginia 23369? If you do not put out a regular bulletin, then drop us a line

(continued)

telling us what your club is doing so we can include the information in "Club News". If your club is not mentioned, then we have not heard from you. Tell us what you are doing, your successful projects and your problems. One of the purposes of VNA is to help member clubs. We offer

slide programs, speakers and program suggestions.

Don't forget that each member club is entitled to one free ticket for your club Representative to attend the Club Representatives Breakfast on Sunday morning at the Convention. More than one person can attend, but only one free ticket is furnished to a club. The breakfast is followed by the meeting for club representatives, at which time the meeting is thrown open to discussion of problems, programs, etc., of interest to our clubs. Any interested member can attend this meeting.

See you at the Convention . . .

Calendar of Coin Shows

Name of Club and Location of Show	Dates
Culpeper Numismatic Club, Culpeper, Va. Virginia Numismatic Association, Virginia Beach, Va. Rockingham Coin Club, Harrisonburg, Va. Middle Atlantic Numismatic Assn., Washington D.C. N. C. Numismatic Assn., Fayetteville, N. C.	September 9-10 September 15-17 September 23-24 October 19-22 October 27-29
Alexandria Coin Club, Alexandria, Va.	October 28-29

Mrs. Mary Brooks

We are greatly pleased that the speaker for the dinner on Saturday night will be Mrs. Mary Brooks, Director of the Mint.

In the last issue of the Numismatist we gave you a brief outline of her background — this time we thought you would be interested in some of her activities since taking office:

Introduction of the Eisenhower Dollar into the nation's coinage, bringing back the dollar size coin after a lapse of many years.

Production of the medal part of the first American Revolution Bicentennial Philatelic-Numismatic Combination, and handling mail and over-the-counter sales.

The first U.S. Mint Medal commemorating the old New Orleans Mint.

Announced that the cupro-nickel non-silver version of the Eisenhower Dollar will be included in the 1973 proof set.

Attended the Seventh International Conference of Mint Directors in Great Britain.

Has under her direction the work inside the old San Francisco Mint, turning an area once used to cast gold, silver and copper ingots into a museum and sales office for coin collectors.

Be sure to come and hear this Lady speak to us.

VNA Membership Pin

The VNA membership pins will be on sale at the Convention. Picturing the official VNA emblem, they will be available with either a pin back or a clutch back fastening. Those for our regular members will cost \$3.50—the ones for life members will sell for \$5.00 (both prices include tax).



ANA Convention Souvenir Card

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing, in addition to providing an exhibit at the ANA Convention in New Orleans, printed a special souvenir card to go with the one issued last year.

This engraving is a replica of the obverse of the \$2 Silver Certificate of Series 1896. It was printed from a plate, specially made for the purpose, which was prepared from the original master die created for that note. The print is the second of a set of three souvenir cards to be devoted to the 1896 notes, a series which over the last seventy years has become renowned for its thematic artistry.

The design was executed by Edwin H. Blashfield, prominent allegorical painter of the late 19th century. The artist entitled his rendition "Science Presenting Steam and Electricity to Commerce and Manufacture". Originally created for an intended \$50 note, the work was used for the \$2 denomination when the design proposed for that lower value was deemed unsuitable. Copies, limited to not more than five per customer, may be ordered from the Bureau at \$1.00 each. They ask that cash not be sent.

VNA Member Wins Award

VNA Life Member Lawrence K. Chavis, a past president of the Southside Virginia Numismatic Association of Petersburg, won the second prize in the medals category of the ANA exhibit awards at the 81st Annual Convention of the American Numismatic Association at New Orleans last month. His display, showing "The History of Black Americans in Medals" was in competition with many other exhibits. Our congratulations are in order for the deserved recognition given this fine gentleman and numismatist.

An Unusual Phase of Aerophilately – Collecting Aerial Propaganda Leaflets

by R. G. Auckland

July 1972

U. S. psywarriors drop leaflets over North Vietnam picturing Nixon and Breznev in a comradely pose; the idea is to undermine enemy confidence in Russian support. But they avoid using photos of the President and Mao Tse-tung. The White House doesn't want to risk its still-fragile relationship with China.

1956

One bright day last summer in Eastern Germany behind the Iron Curtain, a man was walking along the street of one of its large towns and saw a 20-mk. bank note lying on the ground. Thinking that this was his lucky day and that this would help him out of his perpetual economic worries, he rushed forward to pick it up. This scene was being repeated all over the town by German men and women who similarly hoped for unexpected fortune.

But their expectations were not realized. When the creased brown note was picked up and unfolded it was found that instead of legal words it bore anti-Communist propaganda—on both sides. Translated, it read: "Comrades! All... money circulated begins and ends in Moscow. Because of this the Protest Notes are coming; and our bank notes are going. We must say goodbye to them before we have time to hear them rustle in our pay envelopes... through the help of our Soviet friends the East-mark value has come to a standstill where swindle is unavoidable... how easy the appearance can lie—and this bank note as well. It is not worth more than sound and smoke..."

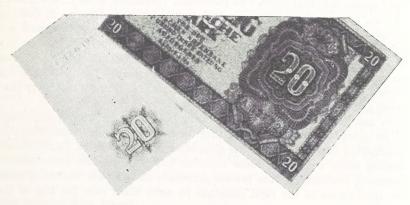
In case the finders are still wondering how so much 'dud' money came to be lying about the streets, they can now be enlightened with the information that it fell from the skies after being suspended from balloons floating lazily overhead. These balloons had been released from Western Germany, probably by the private American Crusade for Freedom, when the winds were in the right direction to carry them over the top of the Iron Crutain.

This sending of information by balloons has now reached terrific proportions. From bases in Western Germany leaflets, brochures, handbooks, stickers, and the like, have been flown to practically all countries west of Berlin, including Ukraine, where information about the Western standard of living and its concepts of freedom and liberty is denied to the massse. For example, in the twelve months ending March, 1955, over 74 million leaflets were sent to Czechoslovakia by means of high-altitude balloons. A large-

scale campaign concerned with the Hungarian exiles' "Twelve Demands of the People's Opposition" was put into operation over Hungary.

So great has this leaflet busniess grown that the Governments of many satellite countries of the Kremlin have vigorously protested many times to the American and West German Governments. It is quite evident that the authorities do not wish these anti-Communist leaflets to be widely read. Various kinds of rewards are offered to people who hand them in to the local police or authorities. In Czechoslovakia it is reported that free lottery tickets were distributed to every person who handed in fifty leaflets after a balloon raid.

The money form of propaganda used in the Red half of Germany is not new or original. It was used in the last war. Some time in 1942 in Cairo and Alexandria the skies were full of British pound notes. They fluttered to the ground, after being released from a German plane high overhead, where the natives excitedly collected them. But after the first flush of excitement of the possibility of being a millionaire in a matter of minutes had passed, several of the Arabs noticed that while one side of the note was perfect in detail and color (it was a photo-reproduction of a genuine note), the other side carried words in Arabic. The literate read with astonishment words to the effect that the pound was worth twenty shillings but now not even a beggar would stoop to pick it up. They also read that the British pound had slumped, and that the British Empire itself would soon fade away like the Gold Standard.



It Looked Like Money, But —

Some months later the Germans perpetrated a similar trick on the citizens of Paris. In the fall of 1943 the streets of that Nazi-controlled city were full of U. S. \$1 bills. Thinking that perhaps the U. S. secret service had sent an early Christmas Present to them, the men and women of occupied Paris picked them up. They saw that the back and front of the notes were perfect replicas but when it was opened up violent anti-Jewish

proapganda was revealed. During the night the Germans had bombarded Paris from the air with these fake dollar greenbacks as part of an anti-Semitic movement being organized at that time. The inside of the two-page dollar carried violent anti-Semitic utterings.



When They Opened It, It Looked Like This!

No large-scale attempts were made in the 1939-45 war to devaluate a nation's currency by saturation from the air with spurious money, but in 1944 the British dropped hundreds of thousands of \$10 bills over Malaya. They were fake Japanese-occupation bank notes and propagandized with the words, "Japanese money and Japan will be finished soon." During the re-capture of the Philippine Islands by General MacArthur's armies, many thousands of Japanese 10-peso notes were captured. These were overprinted one side with the words, "The Co-Prosperity Sphere: What is it worth?" and dropped back on the enemy troops.

In the Korean War, imitation money of that country was used as Safe Conducts and Surrender Passes for use by the enemy. The imitation was either very good or merely signs and symbols made to represent the genuine currency. The text was usually printed in English and Korean, or in Chinese, as in the case of the spurious 100-won note. The reverse usually read like this:

Safe Conduct Pass
This certificate
guarantees good treatment
James N. Van Fleet
Commanding General
UN Forces in Korea

or:

Attention UN Soldiers:

This certificate guarantees good treatment to any Chinese or North

Korean soldier desiring to cease fighting. Take this man to your nearest officer and treat him as an honorable prisoner of war.

Mark V. Clark Commander in Chief United Nations Forces

The ticket to captivity signed by James Van Fleet bears on the obverse the flag of the United Nations and the symbol of the U. S. Eighth Army. A printer's imprint says 'EUSAK 8529 Chinese'; EUSAK means 'Eighth United States Army in Korea' and the others the language and serial number of the leaflet.

There was the time when leaflets dropped by the enemy onto the foe were worth hard cash to the finder. During the first World War the German Government was so worried about the fantastic number of phamplets being dropped over the front and rear troops that the Reichs-President himself mentioned in a public speech the potential Psychological danger of the enemy's paper words. In an effort to stop this kind of propaganda reaching too many troops and those troops taking it back to the civilians in Germany, the following cash rewards were payable to German soldiers who handed in leaflets to their officers: three shillings for the first copy of a pamphlet or leaflet or pictures of the enemy propaganda to be given up to the military authorities, fourpence for other copies, five shillings for a book.

Money fell from the sky in another indirect way, too. Leaflets have been dropped offering cash rewards for such things as an aeroplane, the capture of leaders or the surrender of the individual. The best known of these is the one during the Korean War which offered \$100,000 in U. S. money to the first pilot to fly a modern, operational combat-type Russian jet aircraft over to the United Nations Forces. There were no takers. Two leaflets were printed: one in Chinese and the other in Russian. On each of them was small note in Korean asking the finder to hand teh offer to a Russian or Chinese jet pilot, as well as a picture, and also the history of, a polish Air Force lieutenant who safely piloted a Russian MIG-5 to the Danish island of Bornholm and received political asylum. This tidbit was given as an example and inducement to a wavering Soviet pilot.

Another leaflet with a monetary reward was printed on special moisture-proof paper for dropping over the swampy jungles of Malaya where Communist bandits were hiding. This offered a series of eleven rewards for the information leading to the capture of rebels and their leaders, ranging from Malayan \$30,000 for the Secretary-General of the Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party down to \$1000 for an ordinary Party member, operational or otherwise. The offer was signed by Lt. General Sir Harold Briggs, Director of Operations. Late in 1953 leaflets in Chinese were dropped to bandit-sympathizers in the 'black' areas offering \$500 to the person helping a bandit to defect to the authorities. Later, the bounty was extended to \$1000 to any bandit who brought out two other comrades with



him; for bringing out three others the reward was \$1500, and so on. Large sums were offered for mass surrenders. These leaflets were printed on brightly colored paper so that they would show up against the jungle green. Cash awards were offered through airborne handbills to bandit couriers to take the information they carried on their persons or in their heads to the authorities.

If a light machine-gun was brought out of the jungle the reward would be \$1000, said the leaflet in Chinese signed by Lt. General G. K. Bourne, Director of Operations, on behalf of H. E. the High Commissioner of the Federation of Malaya.

The writer has in his collection almost a thousand such pieces. They are certainly an unusual bit of aerophilately.

This article was published some years ago in AIRPOST JOURNAL. It is reprinted here with the permission of the author. He is the editor of THE FALLING LEAF, the Journal of The Psywar Society, and has written many articles and booklets. His latest book, "Air-Dropped Propaganda Currency" describes and illustrates many items that have been used by various governments. This interesting book may be obtained from the author for \$1.90 US by airmail. Write: R. G. Auckland, 60 High Street, Sandridge, St. Albans, Herts, England. Our thanks to Mr. Auckland.



Have you noticed the letter combinations on this year's Virginia auto tags? We have seen ASK, BAM, CSA, and DAD. Has anyone seen one with VNA on it?

WANTED . . . OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY of VIRGINIA

FRANK R. HANNAH

50 FOX GROVE DRIVE HAMPTON, VIRGINIA 23364

New Book Release

"Confederate Interim Depositary Receipts and Funding Certificates Issued in the Commonwealth of Virginia 1861 - 1865", by Douglas B. Ball, the third in a series of books published by VNA, will be relaesed on September 15, 1972 at the Annual Convention.

The book will contain 45 pages and will bring much desired attention to those very interesting issues. It will have the same appearance as the other books VNA has published. There will be a total of 600 numbered copies printed, in both softbound and hardbound versions. The softbound copy will sell for \$2.50 plus tax and shipping while the hardbound version will sell for \$4.95 plus tax and shipping.

In keeping with its policy of offering a discount to its members, VNA will offer the hardbound copies with your membership number for \$4.00 plus 35 cents tax and shipping. SINCE THIS OFFER WILL EXPIRE SEPTEMBER 30, 1972, be sure to order your copy early. You may pick up yours at the convention or request that it be mailed. Mr. Ball will be present to personally autograph your book if you so desire.

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Smithsonian Money Show

After an absence of more than a year, one of the most fascinating shows of money open to the public is again on display in the Smithsonian Institution's Museum of History and Technology in the City of Washington.

The "History of Money and Medals" exhibition brings together nearly 10,000 coins and about 1,000 specimens of paper currency, special tokens and unusual counterfeits, the cream of the Smithsonian's collection of half a million peices of money. The main display shows the evolution of the money economy as an integral aspect of the cultural, economic and social development of human society.

Using the immence potential presented by coins as one of the most direct and veridic primary sources for history and history of art, a series of thematic exhibits are set up to add depth to the main display and further enhance the value of numismatics as a media of education. An introductory display shows the interrelation between mining and minting; exhibits illustrating the development of coining techniques complete this kaleidoscope of history as seen through coins.

There is an attractive and informative booklet "The History of Money and Medals" available with the display.

Collector of.....

VIRGINIA COUNTY NOTES

GEORGE MOREHEAD

Route 1, Box 90 Moseley, Virginia 23120

Register of the Confederate Debt

by Raphael P. Thian

Reprinted from a ninety-year-old reference of which only five original copies are known to exist, this work is the product of forty years of effort by author Raphael Prosper Thian, soldier, Chief Clerk of the Adjutant General's Office, and, in his spare time, an avid student of Confederate monetary and economic history. This 214-page volüme comprises a summary of the total issues of each type of Confederate Treasury note by series and serial number in their various combinations. Thian also includes a list of those who signed for the Treasurer and the Register, which he painstakingly transcribed from the original Confederate Record books. This exhaustive listing allows the student and collector to determine the genuineness of most notes encountered and to ascertain the degree of rarity of notes based upon a signature combination criterion. A foreword by Confederate scholar Douglas B. Ball includes a description of the trials and frustrations Thian underwent to get his works published, a biographical sketch of Thian, and a procedure for using the reference most efficiently. This reprint is a necessity for every individual and institution interested in Confederate finance, from the collector of Confederate paper money to the library with a gap in its reference material on the Confederacy.

\$15.00

Order from: Quarterman Publications, Inc. 5 South Union Street Lawrence, Massachusetts 01843

A SMALL SELECTION OF NOTES FROM MY EXTENSIVE STOCK.

\$10 Va. Treasury Note (Fine) Oct. 15,1861 No. 1267 A R-5 \$13.00
.50 County of Botetourt (No Vignett) Fine, Sm. Margin Tear
\$1.00 County of Rockbridge (VF, or So) \$10.00
.05 Dunnington & Cockrell, Dumfries, (VF or So) \$30.00
.10 Va. Central R. R. EF, Punch Cancelled \$35.00
.10 Whites Omnibus Line, Newtown, Va. G, trimmed . \$25.00
\$5 Merchants Bank, Alexandria, Harbor Scene VF \$27.50
\$1.00 Danville Bank, AU, ink holes center \$ 9.00
\$1.50 Bank of the Old Dominion VG hole in ctr \$8.50
\$2.00 Bank of the Old Dominion VF \$12.50
\$2.50 Bank of the Old Dominion VF more or less \$29.50
\$1 Bank of the City of Petersburg VG, not cancelled . \$12.00
\$2 Bank of the City of Petersburg VG, not cancelled . \$17.00
.50 Mineral Bank, Richmond, Fair Backed \$37.50
\$1 Southern Manufacturers Bank Richmond VG \$22.50
\$5 Bank of the Valley, Winc. payable at Staunton \$11.00
We Buy Virginia Notes from Colonials to 1929 Nationals. Single items of worth or collections.

FREDERICK WEBER Route One Oak Hill Rd. Emmaus, Pa. 18049



VNA AUCTION SET

Joe Gallo of Alexandria Coin Sales has again been chosen to conduct the Annual Auction at the VNA convention and Coin Show at the Calalier Hotel in Virginia Beach on September 16, 1972. The highlight of the Auction will be more than 250 pieces of Virginia Paper Money from the famous George Wait collection.

Gold Coins are enjoying a period of unsurpassed popularity due in most part to the sharp rise in the price of Gold Bullion on the World Market. We are in the market to BUY collections or accumulations of Gold Coins for resale. We are willing to pay top dollar for any nice quality coins. Just ship with your best price or for our immediate cash offer.

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JOE GALLO

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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

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DON ROBERTS, Editor
P. O. Box 353, Hampton, Virginia 23369

Address all Official mail of the Virginia Numismatic Association to:
RICHARD JONES, Secretary-Treasurer
P. O. Box 1981, Roanoke, Virginia 24009

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THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 8

NUMBER VI 1972

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All mail relating to THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST and ADVERTISING therein should be directed to THE EDITOR, P.O.Box 353 Hampton, Virginia 23369.

Direct all other Correspondence about Membership, Address Changes, etc. to the Secretary RICHARD JONES, P.O.Box 1981 Roanoke, Virginia 24009.

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PUBLISHING SCHEDULE

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Volume 9 Number 2	Feb. 15, 1973	March 10, 1973
Volume 9 Number 3	April 15, 1973	May 10, 1973

Advertisers please note: No Ads will be accepted from Minors without their Parents Consent. All Ads must have Numismatic Significance. Special or Unusual copy requirements will be Billed extra. If in doubt, please write for details.

VNA has on file the names and addresses of all Advertisers. Any complaints or requests for information regarding advertisers should be referred to The Virginia Numismatic Association at P.O. Box 353 Hampton, Virginia 23369. The right to edit copy, to require payment in advance, and to decline any advertisment is specifically reserved.

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE



In this, my first report to the membership as president, I wish to express my thanks for being elected to that office, to head the team that directs the operations of VNA for the coming year. Also, my thanks and congratulations to all of the people, elected, appointed and volunteers, who contributed so much to make the annual meeting at Virginia Beach a success.

As you know, next years meeting will be held at Natural Bridge, at which the new Natural Bridge Medal will be featured. The Board

of Directors will be glad to consider invitations for a site for the 1974 Convention.

On behalf of the officers and directors of VNA, I would like to wish each of you a Happy Holiday Season. Lets all work together to make the coming year one of the best for VNA, its members and member clubs, and numismatics in Virginia.

George K. Morehead, President VNA

1972 - CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS - 1972

This year we are making a photographic report of the annual meeting—if every picture is worth ten thousand words, this will be our biggest issue to date. Those of us that were there can see what went on again—those that were not there can see what they missed. Frank Hannah rates our thanks for the photos. See how many of these Folks you can name....



William W. (Bill) Hannah is selected as "The Outstanding Member of the Year" in 1972 for his help in making the "Botetourt County Court House Medal" the success it has been.



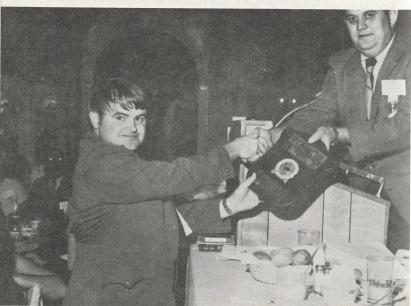
VNA was honored to have as our Guest Speaker for the Banquet the Honorable Mary T. Brooks, Director of the United States Mint & Mr. Roy Cahoun, her Assistant Director. Mrs. Brooks, in addition to her comments about the Mint, had a supply of the New Dollar Bill that the Bureau of Engraving had just printed, which she autographed for each of us. See what you missed by not being there!



ANA President John Pittman is one of the first in line to buy VNA's newest book "Confederate Interim Depositary Receipts & Funding Certificates issued in the Commonwealth of Virginia" by Douglas B. Ball.



"The Best of Show" Award was won by Marion Davis of Easley, S. C.



The "Charles J. Affleck" Award was won by Ralph A. Hicks of Fredericksburg, Virginia.

The Outstanding Awards for Exhibits were won by the following:

Lawrence K. Chavis Medals — Vita Christi (Life of Christ)

Clarence R. Coleman
Ancient — "Coins of the Bible"

John W. Gearhart, Jr. United States Coins

Raymond Haymaker Black Registers of the Treasury

Miss Brenda Robertson Primative Monies of Africa

L. H. Robertson U. S. Coins, Type

Gregory J. Sodus Canadian Coins Petersburg, Virginia

Roanoke, Virginia

Hampton, Virginia

Clifton Forge, Virginia

Roanoke, Virginia

Roanoke, Virginia

Laurel, Maryland



Hiram Bowers receives certificate for the many years of service as the Editor of the VNA Numismatist.



Douglas Ball is honored for the book he Authored and presented to VNA. In addition to a very generous cash donation, he has donated all profits to VNA.



George Morehead, New VNA President, presents a Plaque to Jim Beard, outgoing President.

Who is that in front!

1972 - CONVENTION , RO



RGINIA BEACH - 1972





VNA would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Al Walters and all of his Chairmen for the outstanding job they did in making this year's Convention one of our Best Ever.



The Gold Coins this year were won by the following:

\$20.00 Gold Piece \$10.00 Gold Piece \$ 5.00 Gold Piece Wesley L. Blackwell H. W. Griffin W. W. Battle

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

ORDER YOUR VNA MEMBERSHIP PIN , . .

If you missed out on getting your VNA membership pin that was introduced at the Convention at Virginia Beach this year, it's not too late! We have a supply of pins with the Cluch Back (For Men), Pin Back (For Men or Women), and Charm Loops for those who wish to wear them on a Bracelet. They may be ordered from:

The Virginia Numismatic Association Post Office Box 353 Hampton, Virginia 23369

NEWS OF OUR CLUBS

We have been pleased to receive reports on regular meetings and Annual Conventions and Coin Shows from member clubs. Congratulations to all of them for their continuing and special activities, as reported by: Shenandoah Valley Coin Club, Culpepper Numismatic Club; Rockingham Coin Club; Meherin Valley Coin Club; Washington Numismatic Society; Tidewater Coin Club; Virginia Peninsula Coin Club; Blue Ridge Numismatic Association; Middle Atlantic Numismatic Association, Richmond Coin Club.

If your Club is not listed here, we are not receiving your Club Bulletin—Check with your Editor and make sure a copy goes to:

P.O. Box 353 Hampton, Virginia 23369

We do not wish to overlook anyone.

APPLICANTS FOR REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

The following individuals have applied for membership in the Virginia Numismatic Association and will become a member within 20 days of the mailing date of this notice unless some adverse reaction is received, in which case the matter will be acted on by the board of directors:

Applicants

Richard J. Murray, Hampton Virginia
Richard Montford, Palo Alto, California
William Adelard Le Doux, Afton, Virginia
Robert W. Ross, III, Camden, South Carolina
William T. Coffey, Lexington, Virginia
Robert J. Shalowitz, Baltimore, Maryland
John L. Rigsbee, Bon Air, Virginia
Walter J. Byrnes, Virginia Beach, Virginia
Vince Bulman, Norfolk, Virginia
Douglas Fredericks, Williamsburg, Virginia
Susan M. Swinson, Virginia Beach, Virginia
Jeffrey E. Locke, Virginia Beach, Virginia
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The GSA has published order forms to be used to bid on the purchase of the Carson City Silver Dollars now stored in the Depository at West Point, New York. These forms are available at U. S. Post Offices and others have been mailed to those on the list of the U. S. Mint Office in San Francisco.

This is the first profile of a proposed series "Know Your VNA Members." We welcome short biographies on members in your area. Pictures are also welcomed. Let's all get to know each other better in 1973.

VNA PROFILE - November 1972

Ernest M. Seneca, the numismatist's numismatist and the first president of the Virginia Numismatic Association, has long enjoyed an intimate association with coin collecting. He started collecting coins of American historical significance at the age of ten. Like most of us, he started with Indian and Lincoln Head cents, nickels, dimes, and quarters. At the age of 15, he was given a large cent dated 1852 and it was this gift that set the tone of a life long collection. For a short time from the age of 16-18 he collected foreign stamps as well as U. S. coins but by the time he reached 18, he confined his collecting to United States coins only.

While he was in college, funds were limited but he did manage to buy one nice large cent dated 1799 which still remains in his collection.

Mr. Seneca belongs to six numismatic organizations: he is a charter member of the Virginia Numismatic Association with membership number 1, a charter member of the Tidewater Coin Club of which he is a past president, joined the American Numismatic Association in 1941 with number 8605 assigned him, the Middle Atlantic Numismatic Association, the Virginia Peninsula Coin Club, and the Richmond Coin Club.

Mr. Seneca has willingly lent his time and talents to coin organizations whenever called upon. He has on numerous occasions presented programs at various club meetings including being a guest speaker for the Middle Atlantic Numismatic Association.

He is married, has one son and two grandchildren. His ever pleasant wife, Tiny, can generally be found at his side at coin conventions. In 1969 he retired from the U. S. Postal service after serving for 33 years.

Anyone who knows Mr. Seneca at all respects and admires him not only for his wealth of numismatic knowledge, but also for his steadfast principles of honesty and integrity. He is a true numismatist.

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ISRAEL COIN COLLECTORS MEET IN NORFOLK

Collectors of Israel coins and medals met Thursday, October 19, at 8:00 p.m. at the Norfolk Jewish Community Center, 7300 Newport Avenue, to discuss the establishment of an Israel Numismatic Society of Tidewater, Virginia. Over 25 such societies operate at present throughout the United States and are an important instrument in fostering the knowledge of Israel through its coins and medals.

The meeting was attended by Mr. Rafael Aldor, Consul of Israel in New York and Director for North America of the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation; and by Mr. Morris Bram, President of the American Israel Numismatic Association, Inc. All collectors is the Tidewater, Virginia area are cordially invited to attend future meetings.

Next meeting 3rd Thursday of November

Collector of.....

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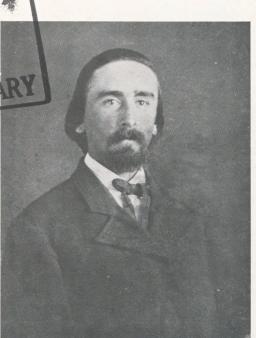
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VOLUME 9 NUMBER 1 1973

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

All mail relating to the Virginia Numismatic Association should be addressed to:

DON ROBERTS, Editor

P. O. Box 353, Hampton, Virginia 23369

Address all Official mail of the Virginia Numismatic Association to:
RICHARD JONES, Secretary-Treasurer
P. O. Box 1981, Roanoke, Virginia 24009

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THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

Volume 9 Number I 1973

The VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST is the Official Publication of The Virginia Numismatic Association, Inc. and is published six times each year. Articles and Items for publication are welcome and Solicited. All six issues are mailed from Hampton, Virginia at the Third Class Postal Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure and send us your Change of Address,

All mail relating to THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST and ADVERTISING therein should be directed to THE EDITOR. P.O.Box 353 Hampton, Virginia 23369.

Direct all other Correspondence about Membership, Address Changes, etc. to the Secretary RICHARD JONES, P.O.Box 1981 Roanoke, Virginia 24009.

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PUBLISHING SCHEDULE

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ISSUE	ADV. DEADLINE	PUBLICATION DATE
Volume 9 Number 2	Feb. 15, 1973	March 10, 1973
Volume 9 Number 3	April 15, 1973	May 10, 1973
Volume 9 Number 4	June 15, 1973	July 10, 1973

Advertisers please note: No Ads will be accepted from Minors without their Parents Consent, All Ads must have Numismatic Significance. Special or Unusual copy requirements will be Billed extra. If in doubt, please write for details.

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE



New Years are traditionally the times for new beginnings - Let us make this one the best one ever - let's all get involved. This is your publication, be sure to use it to publicize your events. We feel that each club in Virginia can benefit by supporting VNA. One of the ways to do this is to appoint an active member of your club to act as VNA representative. Be sure to include his or her name when your club sends in your 1973 club dues, and see that your club secretary sends in the information concerning your club's activities, both new and continuing.

National Coin Week will be coming up in the spring. This is an opportunity for each club and member to tell other people why we are numismatists and how interesting and informative our hobby can be to them.

Our youth program needs to be strengthened and expanded to reach and help more of the young and the new collectors.

The officers and board of directors join me in wishing you all a Happy New Year. In the words of Tiny Tim: "God Bless Us, Every One".

George K. Morehead, President VNA

ANA NEWS

The ANA Board of Governors recently expressed unanimous support of a Membership Committee resolution that ANA member clubs once again be considered for life membership in the Association. It has been many years since such membership status was available for clubs. There are seven clubs currently on the roles as life members. In approving the recommendation of the membership committee, the board authorized a life membership fee of \$500 for clubs until March 31, 1973. At that time the fee will be set at \$1,000. This discounted fee period was set up to encourage clubs to become life members at an early date.

Remember that the address for the ANA Certification Service is: Charles Hoskins, Director, ANACS, Box 87, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, D.C. 20044. Base fees have been set up, which cover photographing each coin received, visual microscopic examination, and, if necessary, taking the dry weight and specific gravity of the coin. If the coin is certified, the photos of the obverse and reverse are printed on the registered certificate you will receive.

PERSONALITY PROFILES Elwood D. Barnes, Jr.

During the banquet at our last V.N.A. Convention President Jim Beard awarded a special V.N.A. Certificate of Appreciation which read in part, "With Appreciation for his many years of Diligent and Faithful Service... The Virginia Numismatic Association Honors Elwood Barnes." For the first time in many years illness made it impossible for Elwood to be there in person - to hear the spontaneous applause that followed the announcement, or to receive the framed certificate.

No matter how many words might have been engraved on the award, they could not have done justice to the many hours of dedicated labor, and unclaimed out-of-pocket contributions, that this quiet, unassuming numismatist gave to the association.

By profession Elwood is a Safe Cracker - but a more honest and virtuous member of this profession can not be found. He specialized in opening the safes that thieves had battered and abused in their efforts to loot them. He was summoned from all parts of the state when anything from a massive bank vault to a tin cash box refused to open in a normal manner. Using his years of experience, his almost intuitive genius for diagnosing the trouble, and an infinite amount of patience and skill he would release the mechanisms, crack the door open and, stepping back, allow the rightful owners to reclaim possession of their assets. From the contacts he made in his work and his familiarity with officialdom he was able to smooth away many of the thorny problems that beset the holding of a numismatic convention in the Richmond area.

Elwood is a Past President of the Richmond Coin Club, served on the Board of M.A.N.A., and was elected to many terms of service on the V.N.A. Board. He was Co-Chairman of the Conventions held in Richmond. In this capacity he did most of the detailed local leg work, while allowing the other Co-Chairman to bask in the lime light and take the bows for a job well done.

He and his devoted wife Ann showed up early at each V.N.A. Convention and pitched in to share the numerous thankless tasks - setup, registration, errands, publicity, etc. - that are essential to a well run convention but are often over looked when public recognition is given.

In V.N.A. Board meetings he did not hesitate to express his disagreement with some proposed programs but, once the decision was made, he backed the V.N.A. programs to the hilt. In the past two years illness, and the rigors of his profession, have slowed his legs and brought a tremble to his once steady hands. It has not dimmed his enthusiasm for numismatics nore his love for V.N.A.

We are proud that he is on our team.

Our thanks to Mr. James A. Johnson, Jr., for his interesting profile on Elwood D. Barnes, Jr. in this issue, and to Mrs. Joann Klotz for the one she wrote on Ernest M. Seneca in our previous issue.

ORDER YOUR VNA MEMBERSHIP PIN . . .

If you missed out on getting your VNA membership pin that was introduced at the Convention at Virginia Beach this year, it's not too late! We have a supply of pins with the Cluch Back (For Men), Pin Back (For Men or Women), and Charm Loops for those who wish to wear them on a Bracelet. They may be ordered from:

The Virginia Numismatic Association Post Office Box 353 Hampton, Virginia 23369

Isreal Numismatic Society of Tidewater Virginia

The newly organized Isreal Numismatic Society of Tidewater Virginia holds its meetings at the Jewish Community Center, 7300 Newport Avenue, Norfolk, Virginia.

Membership is open to all persons interested in Isreal coins for either collectors interest or for investment.

Officers are to be installed at a meeting on February 11, 1973 at the Jewish Community Center. Several interesting speakers will address this meeting.

The next regular meeting will be held January 17, 1973. Interested persons are invited to attend the meetings.

For more information write to P.O. Box 383, Norfolk, Va. 23501 or call Morton Ronick at 428-5597.

APPLICANTS FOR REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

The following individuals have applied for membership in the Virginia Numismatic Association and will become a member within 20 days of the mailing date of this notice unless some adverse reaction is received, in which case the matter will be acted on by the board of directors:

Applicants

Sponsors

Mr. Jack O. Gray, Murfreesboro, N. C.

Frank Hannah

DUES ARE DUE

Your Dues of \$5.00 for 1973 are due on January 1, please send them to the secretary:

Mr. Richard Jones P. O. Box 1981 Roanoke, Va. 24009 Portraits, coin photographs and caption data on the following article courtesy of Stack's and the Smithsonian Institution.

Reproduction without permission is prohibited.

"Horth Garolina Gold and the Bechtler Wint"

Mention gold or gold mining and most people think of California and the great gold rush of 1849. Actually gold in quantity had been discovered a half-century before in North Carolina by a 12-year-old boy named Conrad Reed, wading in Meadow Creek in Cabarrus County. The youngster spotted a shiny rock which he picked up and carried home. His parents agreed that it was a pretty rock and let their son use it for a doorstop. Three years later in 1802, the father, John Reed, made a trip to Fayetteville and for some reason took the rock along to let a jeweler examine it. The jeweler bought the rock from Reed for \$3.50, without telling him that it was actually a gold nugget weighing 17 pounds and worth at that time about \$8,000. Reed found out about its true value and after some sort of action received an additional \$3.000 from the jeweler.

Reed had been a lucky man. Originally a German soldier, he had been loaned to the British to help suppress the American colonists. At the battle of Camden, South Carolina, he had deserted and quietly made his way to the Dutch Buffalo Creek section of North Carolina where he lived among the German Reformed and Lutheran settlers. In 1792 he was able to purchase his first small farm. Now his son had discovered gold on that land, and he owned it free and clear. So he joined with three neighbors, John Love, Fredrick Kiser and Martin Pfifer, in forming the Reed Gold Mining Company the first such company in the United States. Shortly after operations began, Reed found another big nugget in the creek. This one weighed 28 pounds. From 1803 until 1835 the group found other nuggets, each weighing more that one pound, whose total weight was more than 115 pounds. So rich was the lode that at late as 1896 another nugget weighing 24 pounds was found.

Needless to say their was a search for gold being made by other landowners throughout the area. It was discovered in Mecklenburg, Rowan, Montgomery and other counties. Some of this gold found its way to the U.S. Mint where it was made into coin. This is verified by an entry in Mint records for 1804, "The first virgin United States gold arrived at the Mint, \$11,000 in ingots, from Cabarrus County, North Carolina." From 1804 to 1829 North Carolina shipped nine million dollars worth of gold to the U.S. Mint.

The distance from the mines to the Mint at Philadelphia was the problem, however. Most of the miners kept their gold dust in small leather pouches, and traveled only as far as the nearest general store to buy the necessities of life. Commerce was hampered by the growing mass of gold dust, wildcat bank notes, and foreign coins. Gold was obviously preferred by everybody but it was hard to handle. What was needed was a local mint.

At his home in Baden, another German, Christopher Bechtler, Sr., received a letter from a friend who had immigrated to America telling him of the situation in North Carolina. Bechtler was an expert in metals, whether it be steel for guns or silver and gold for jewelry. The letter sounded like a real opportunity for his family so he came to America along with two sons Augustus and Charles and a nephew, Christopher Jr. They settled in the little town of Rutherfordton, North Carolina. By 1831, after a period of gunsmithing and jewelry-making in the town, Bechtler announced in the Carolina Spectator and Western Advertiser that he was prepared to mint gold coins of \$1, \$2½ and \$5 in value. His ad advised "that the price of gold in a fluxed state of 22 or 24 carats was generally sold for 84 cents per pennyweight in the banks when its intrinsic value, if coined, was 90 or 94 cents, consequently an actual savings of six cents per pennyweight." Bechtler's fee for coining was 2½ per cent.

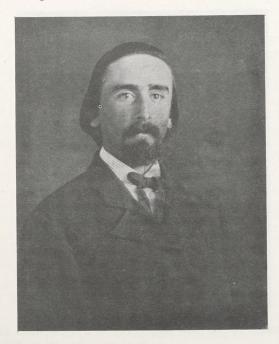
The miners of the area were at first suspicious of the coins, but after the U.S. Mint at Philadelphia examined the coins and found them correct, Bechtler's reputation was established. It also got the Government to thinking of branch mints, but until the U.S. Mint was established at Charlotte in 1837, the Bechtlers had things to themselves. Gold from mines in South Carolina and Georgia also flowed to Rutherfordton where the fair-dealing Bechtlers tended their fires and press. In 1834 our country went on a gold standard and more mines opened. Christopher Bechtler Sr. prospered along with the region and he groomed his son Augustus to take over the mint when he felt like retiring to less strenuous activities. Augustus learned the art of die cutting, melting and annealing of the gold planchets, and the use of coin press. When his father died in 1842, Augustus Bechtler was able to continue mint operations and actually increased production for a time. Such was his integrity that many miners travelled the extra distance to Rutherfordton rather than sell their gold to the Charlotte Mint. But when Augustus died in 1846, it was the beginning of the end.

The Bechtler mint fell into the hands of the nephew, Christopher Bechtler, Jr. Fro some reason the new owner began to make coins that were not up to full value. When word got around, the miners quickly took their business elsewhere and when gold was discovered in California in 1849 many of them left the area and went west. By 1852 the Bechtler mint was closed for good.

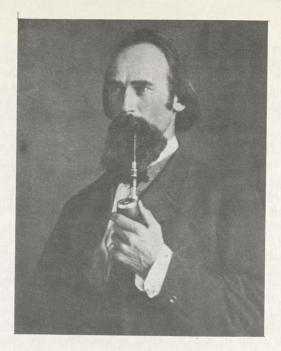
The real legacy of the Bechtler mint of course are the surviving coins, of which there are quite a few. Compared to U.S. Mint products the coins are not beautiful, but the Bechtlers never intended them to be. Their coins were

necessity pieces to serve as a desperately needed medium of exchange. Most of them show their value, fineness and weight, as well as the state from which the gold came. The one dollar coins were the first gold dollars made in our country. Regardless of their plain designs, they are highly prized by collectors. Many remain in the Rutherford area, well-guarded by their owners. In recent years the sale of the fabulous George Walton collection in 1963 by the famous coin firm of Stack's, New York, broke up the most complete collection of Bechtler gold coins ever offered for sale. The catalog of this sale is now a classic since it contained the first publication anywhere of tintype portraits of the Bechtler family. After the sale Stack's donated the portraits to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington to be preserved as part of our national heritage.

Today the only evidence of the little mint are some highway markers and the original Bechtler home still standing in Rutherfordton. Some of the coinage dies are in the State Hall of History in Raleigh, and the Bechtler press is on display in the American Numismatic Society building in New York. Local residents of the Rutherford county area go into the creeks on weekends and pan a few tiny nuggets for a hobby, and some elderly residents will tell you that there is still plenty of gold to be had if you work at it. But the little town of Rutherfordton still nestles in the foothills of the mountain air and water, and remembers its past when the miners came to town and sold their gold to the Bechtlers.



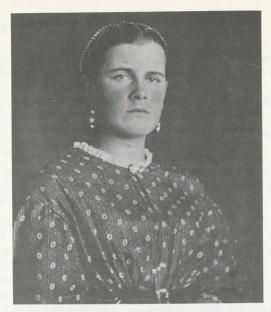
Christopher Bechtler, Sr., born 1782, died 1842. Children: Augustus, Charles, Anne, Louise.



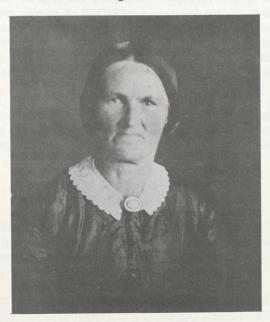
Augustus Bechtler, born 1810, died about 1846. Son of Christopher Bechtler, Sr.



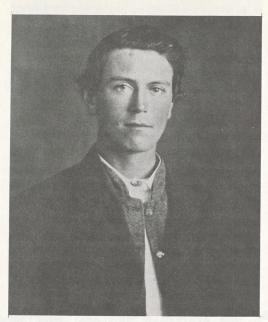
Louise Bechtler, eldest daughter of Christopher Bechtler, Sr.



Anne Bechtler Kee, youngest daughter of Christopher Bechtler, Sr. She sewed the first Confederate flag for Jefferson Davis.



Sophia Fleck Bechtler, wife of Christopher Bechtler, Jr. Christopher Jr. was a nephew of Christopher Sr., not a son.



Frederick Beckeler. Son of Christopher, Jr. and nephew of Christopher Bechtler, Sr.



Today the only evidence of the location of the original Bechtler Mint is the highway marker located four miles north of Rutherfordton, N.C.

COMMEMORATIVES FOR 1976?

We take this opportunity to repeat the call made in the past for the issue of special coins and paper money on the 200th. anniversary of our Nation in the year 1976.

As before, we suggest that the following items would be both appropriate and meaningful:

- 1. A special issue of coins of a new design, dated 1976, from one cent through one dollar, to be issued for only that one year.
- 2. A special issue of the two-dollar United States Note, also dated 1976, with Trumbull's "Declaration of Independence" as used on the reverse of the 100-dollar National Bank note of 1863.

The lead time required to design and stock-pile sufficient quantities of the coins and notes is growing short - action should be taken now, with the opening of the new Congress coming this month. Be sure to write your Senator and Representative to urge this action in this matter. Let's make it legal, and soon!

In the past, the Mint officials have not been at all receptive to the idea of special coins for this occasion. They objected to the additional work required for a change in coinage and seemed to think that new coin designs would cause great confusion to the public. Our neighbors to both the north and south have been able to do this without too much trouble or confusion, for their special occasions. It would seem that the greatest industrial nation in the world should be able to design, produce and use new designs of coins and currency with the motivation engendered by the bicentennial celebration. Most of us seem to have considerable more difficulty in getting money than in spending it.

Remember, the wheel that squeaks the loudest gets the grease. If we don't make our wants known now, in the proper manner and to the right people, we will only have ourselves to blame if no action is taken. Remember that old saying - "He that tooteth not his own horn, the same shall not be tooted!"

IN MEMORIAM

We are sorry to report the passing of two gentlemen who were very active in Virginia numismatics:

Major H. A. Lamberton, Miami, Florida Dr. Grey C. Hughes, Hampton, Virginia

Our sincere condolences are extended to both their families. We will miss them, too.

CORPORATION OF PREDERICESBURG

by Ralph A. Hicks Jr.

Many of the notes that we see today from the period 1861-1865 are the results of the hardships endured by the people of that period. With the flames of war at their doorsteps, the towns and counties still found the time and fortitude to issue currency for the benefit of its people. Having lived in the city of Fredericksburg, surrounded by the cannon and trenches that have survived through the ages, makes one wonder how the people of that period survived. The "Yanks" were on the North side of the Rappahannock and the "Rebs" on the South, ready to defend the honor of the two divided nations.

With assistance of the records of Council meetings and letters from the period I was able to reconstruct that time which seems so far in the past. As I became involved in researching the records it was if I were in a time as machine. . . . The time is the 11th day of September, 1861. A special session of the Common Council has been called for the Town of Fredericksburg (Corporation of Fredericksburg was referred to as TOWN by its citizens). John S. Caldwell, the recorder, is maintaining the meeting records as he has done for the past few years. He will never know that his signature will be a collectible in the future as he will sign all Corporation of Fredericksburg notes FOR Mayor. The council minutes are all handwritten in Longhand by Mr. Caldwell.

The Council is concerned that a "Yankee" invasion is near as the northern troops are moving into camps along the Rappahannock (Battle of Fredericksburg is yet a year away, December 13, 1862). Cannon emplacements which will be used for the cannon to bombard the city for twelve hours and virtually destroy it completely are being dug. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia has sent a few troops into town to keep a watchful eye on the "Yankees".

The meeting continues. The following ordinance was presented and passed: "Be it ordained by the Common Council that the Mayor (M. Slaughter) cause to be printed, sums not exceeding \$10,000.00 in notes of -1- one dollar each, and in notes of -50- fifty cents each a sum not exceeding \$10,000.00 in addition to the -1- one dollar sums". (taken from Council records as recorded).

Earlier in the year, April 10th, 1861, the Common Council approved the printing of \$10,000.00 in denominations of -1- one dollar and denominations of -50- fifty cents. It proved not to be sufficient, and was used up and worn out in less than six months.

The honor of printing the notes went to the firm of Hoyer & Ludwig of Richmond, Virginia, probably because the town print shop was involved in printing the daily paper and was not set up to print notes. (Later the town did print notes, which are unmarked, through the local printer). Hoyer & Ludwig had gained recognition for their printing of Confederate Bonds and

Currency. Many of the Corporation of Fredericksburg notes are printed on a white paper. The smaller denominations of poorer quality were printed on a yellowish, bluish, brownish, and white paper. The smaller notes were printed on the backs of Falmouth Savings notes and bank notes of the period.

There are four types of notes printed, all are dated during 1861 usually during May, September, October, and November. September 12 and 13 are the most common dates. The first type, the -50- fifty cent note, measures 6¾" by 2¾", blacksmith left side, dog and safe center, woman right side, printed on white paper. Also same as above with Indian center with red



Type I

background. Also the same type without red background. Second type -1- one dollar note same size as -50- cent note has Indian center, man shearing sheep right side, also with and without red background and one in red overprint may be found. White paper is the most common type found



Type II

for the -1- dollar notes. Third type -2- two dollar note same dimensions as the -50- cent and -1- dollar notes. The -2- dollar note has train center, woman right side, no overprints have been seen on this note. Type four:



Type III



Type IV

I classify the -25- and -50- cent notes in this class, both measure 5%" by 2½". Most are on brownish paper with no printer's name; J. White Printer is imprinted on a few of these notes mostly the -25- twenty-five cent variety. Many of these notes have a train at the bottom center, and there are many ornamental borders surrounding the notes.

The majority of the notes on the Corporation of Fredericksburg are well worn and show that they were put to good use by the citizens and the soldiers in the town. In 1862 the town was virtually destroyed by the North, and that which was not burned including the bank and courthouse was carted off by the troops. The above facts along with "father time" is probably why there are not many of the 16,000* notes printed still in existence.

The Mayors have come and gone and the Common Council has changed many times (now known as the city council). But, the government of the city remains the same, we still have the Mayor, the Council, and the Chamberlain (now known as the Treasurer) to carry on the city meetings as usual.

I would like to thank Mr. Charles Berry, Clerk of the Fredericksburg Court, for making all records available to me, and Mr. Harvey Walsh of the City for giving me access to the Council records for the year 1861.

Ralph A. Hicks, Jr.

*Estimated from records available.

VNA would like to thank Mr. Hicks for this excellent article. It is hoped that it will inspire others to research the records in their own areas and pass this information on to us for publication in future issues of the <u>Virginia</u> Numismatist.

BOOK REVIEW

COINS & CURRENCY OF PANAMA by Capt. Julius Grigore, Jr., USNR, 1972, 202 pages, hard cover, illustrated. Krause Publications. Ilola, Wisc., \$6.50 or at most coin shops.

A sparkling full color cover introduces the reader to the most complete study of Panamanian coins and paper money ever published. The work details both the history of the coin issues of Panama from 1904 to the present, and the historical background against which they were issued.

A long time collector of the coins of Panama, Capt. Grigore details the numerous coin types and varieties encountered in the Panamanian series. All are illustrated and described. What might otherwise be a dry technical study is enlivened by his special appreciation for Panama's coinage and its ties to history, an appreciation that could be gained only after years of residency in the Canal Zone.

Panama's history and coinage has been closely tied to that of the United States since Teddy Roosevelt's enthusiasm for the projected Panama Canal prompted an independence movement in 1903. Most of the country's coins have been struck at the U. S. mints to the U. S. coinage standard, while the currency of trade has been U. S. paper money from the beginning, although a small amount of Panamanian currency has been issued.

All of Panama's coin and currency issues are detailed and listed by date in this work, including development of the monetary system, designs, manufacture, quantities issued and current availability.

This book will be a useful addition to your numismatic libarary or a fine gift to a friend interested in coins or history.

NEWS OF OUR CLUBS

Washington Numismatic Society

The following officers were elected by acclamation and will serve for 1973: President - Walter Mason; 1st Vice-President - A. A. (Sam) Butland; 2nd Vice-President - Sedgewick Moss; Secretary - Mae Clark; Treasurer - Eldridge Jones; Sgt-at-Arms - Diane Dietz; Board Members: Joseph Clarke, James Payne, Ed Paregol and Karl E. Hoke; ANA Rep - Herb Price; MANA Rep - Eldridge Jones; Alt MANA Rep - T. P. Penden.

Women's Lib triumphed, as the Society elected the first female sergeantat-arms in its history. She is one of the hardest workers in and has made

many contributions to the club.

Brent Hughes was elected to honorary life membership of the Society in recognition of his contributions to numismatics during the past decade.

The Society plans to re-organize its auction next year, having one every other meeting and placing it at various points in the meeting program.

Metropolitan Washington Numismatic Association

Another successful Convention was held by MWNA, at the Sheraton-Park Hotel in July.

\$3,250.00 will be divided among five area Retarded Childrens Groups as a result of the Convention.

Joseph Clarke was elected as General Chairman for the 1973 Convention, which will be held at the Sheraton-Park Hotel, July 12 - 15, 1973.

Salem Coin Club

The annual Christmas party was held at the Salem-Roanoke Valley Civic

Center. Plans are being made for the 1973 Show.

Officers elected for 1973 are: President - Polly Hannah; Vice-President - Don Pugh; Secretary - Sheri Booth; Corresponding Secretary - Larry Booth; Treasurer - Bob Phlegar; Board of Directors: Bob Richardson, Fred Reynolds, Arthur Murchison and George Milan.

Tidewater Coin Club

The December meeting was a Christmas party held at the Lake Wright Motel. Plans are being made for the annual show to be held on March 24 and 25 at the Lake Wright Motel. The show dinner will be held on March 23rd, also at the Motel.

Shenandoah Numismatic Society

Garland Harman, President of the Shenandoah Numismatic Society, announced that plans have been completed for a Coin Show to be held on May 26 and 27 at the George Washington Hotel in downtown Winchester, Virginia. For further information please call or write the Borse Chairman, Garland Harman, 421 Battle Avenue, Winchester, Virginia 22601. This is always a lovely time of year to visit the Valley, and see a good show, too.

Virginia Peninsula Coin Club

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Club officers elected for the coming year are: President - C. Alton Lindsay; Vice-President - Charles H. Johnson; Secretary-Treasurer - Margery Hannah; Sgt-at-Arms - Howard Puckett. They will be installed at the annual banquet held at the Elks Lodge on Tidemill Lane in Hampton the third Monday in February. Members and guests are urged to bring displays for this meeting. Come and enjoy the followship.

The Club was saddened by the death of long-time Dr. Grey C. Hughes in October.

Shenandoah Valley Coin Club

Secretary Jim Oberg reports that the Club holds its meetings on the second Monday of the month at the National Bank and Trust Company in Fisherville. Visitors are welcomed. The new officers for next year will be elected soon.

Richmond Coin Club

Our special correspondent from the Richmond area has advised us by telephone that the following slate of officers was elected at the December meeting and will be installed at the regular meeting on January 4th President - Joseph Bush; Vice-President - Bill Wilkerson; Secretary - Frank Cluverins and Treasurer - Charles Garber.

Meherrin Valley Coin Club

Officers elected for the coming year are: President - H. F. McCoy; Vice-President - Carson Revell and Secretary-Treasurer - W. Delbroe Johnson. The annual dinner meeting was held at Tommie's Restaurant on December 7th. Howard E. Spain introduced Frank Hannah of Hampton, who spoke to the Club about the Virginia Numismatic Association. Another guest, who is also a VNA member, was Jimmy Johnson of the Richmond Coin Club. These folks really know how to put on an enjoyable dinner meeting.



Meherrin Valley Coin Club at their Christmas Party. If you ever have the chance, be sure and attend one of their meetings, and see a real live wire club in action.

Covington Coin Club

That jolly gentlemen from the far North, Santa Claus, was one of the 45 members and guests at the December dinner meeting at Reid's Restaurant in Covington. New officers installed were: President - Ray Haymaker; Vice-President - Willie Gregory; Secretary - Dell Haymaker; Treasurer - Marjorie Beard. Door prizes of a five dollar gold piece and 4 proof sets were awarded. This is the Host Club for the VNA meeting at Natural Bridge in September, and they are looking forward to seeing you all there.

Calendar of Club Shows

Club	Location	Date
Tidewater Coin Club	Lake Wright Motel, Norfolk	March 24 - 25
Shenandoah Num Society	George Washington Hotel Winchester	May 26 - 27
Metro Wash Num Assn	Sheraton-Park Hotel Washington, D. C.	July 12 -15
Blue Ridge Num Assn	Civic Center Birmingham, Ala.	August 2 - 5
Amer Num Assn	Sheraton-Boston Hotel Boston, Mass	August 23 - 27
Virginia Num Assn	Natural Birdge Hotel Natural Bridge	Sept. 21, 22, 23

The Virginia Numismatist acts as a clearing house for news concerning coin shows and conventions of interest to our readers. Please be sure to let us have this information in time to avoid conflict of dates.

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- 5. Highlights of the Early United States Half Dollar
- 6. The Story of Money in Virginia

These are professionally produced and narrated 35mm color slides with the standard audio tape on reels. They are not available in tape cassettes. Programs may be used for showing to church groups, youth organizations and other worthy and interested clubs. Please be sure to return them as soon as possible after using them.

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DON ROBERTS, Editor
P. O. Box 353, Hampton, Virginia 23369

Address all Official mail of the Virginia Numismatic Association to:
RICHARD JONES, Secretary-Treasurer
P. O. Box 1981, Roanoke, Virginia 24009

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THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 9 NUMBER II 1973

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE



Last issue I suggested that we all get involved this year. With the coming of spring, Coin Shows will be with us again: This gives us an opportunity to see old friends, make new ones, exhibit from our collections, secure additional material from the bourse dealers, go to educational talks and share our numismatic information with others as we learn from them.

The ANA has announced that National Coin Week this year will be April 15 to 21, with the theme "Money Talks". This is an

excellent opportunity for members and clubs to exhibit, give talks to civic clubs, etc., and in general to spread the word to the public about our fine hobby.

Remember, an informed and active collector is a better numismatist, and has fun, too. As the TV ad says, "Try it, you'll like it".

George K. Morehead, President VNA

NATIONAL COIN WEEK

National Coin Week for 1973 will be April 15 to 21. The theme this year is "Money Talks". Additional information on the subject may be obtained by writing to National Coin Week, American Numismatic Association, P.O. Box 2366, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80901. We urge your participation, both club and personal. Let other people know the good things about our hobby.

THE BANK NOTE REPORTER.

Col. Grover C. Criswell, member of the ANA Board of Governors, author and paper money dealer, has announced that he would begin publication of a hobby newspaper named the Bank Note Reporter.

Criswell said: "The paper will be directed primarily to collectors of notes, bonds, checks, documents, manuscripts, and most anything else that has been printed or written on paper."

In a lead article in the new publication, Criswell announced that he is a candidate for the office of president of the American Numismatic Association, of which he has been a member for many years.

Subscription rates to the Bank Note Reporter, issued monthly, are \$3.00 per year - addressed to Criswill at Citra, Florida 32627.

THE JEFFERSON DAVIS CASEMATE MUSEUM Fort Monroe, Virginia

As the United States approaches the bicentennial of its birth, few Americans recall that for three-fourths of the nation's lifetime, seacoast fortifications played a vital, and at times predominate, role in American military defenses. In part this is so because military historians have generally ignored fixed seacoast defenses or harbor defenses, as they are frequently called, and the Coast Artillery forces that manned them.

Throughout the first century and a half of its existence, the United States pursued a military and naval policy oriented largely toward the protection of its maritime frontiers against threats from Europe and, later, Asia. One of the principal outcomes of this policy was a succession of fortification systems established between 1794 and 1945 to guard the major

seaports, naval bases and river entrances.

Fort Monroe, Old Point Comfort, Virginia, begun in 1817 to command Hampton Roads, was the first work of the third system of the seacoast fortifications planned from the ground up. It was also the most extensive in area of all pre-Civil War forts and was long thought to be the largest defensive structure in the world that did not enclose a civilian community. The work was designed by Simon Bernard, a former aide to Napoleon who served in the United States Army from 1816 to 1831, as an irregular hexagon with a large bastion at each salient (at each intersection of major faces) and an additional bastion on the long southern front. Named for the fifth President, it was officially known until 1832 as Fortress Monroe. The name was changed from "Fortress" to "Fort" Monroe by Order No. 11, Headquarters of the Army, February 8, 1832.

The Army's first service school — the Artillery School of Practice — was founded here in 1824, and during the first half of the twentieth century its successor, the Coast Artillery School, made Fort Monroe the hub of harbor defence training, research and development activities. It now serves as

Headquarters, U. S. Continental Army Command (CONARC).

On March 9, 1862, the first battle of the iron-clads took place in the waters of Hampton Roads. The Confederates, hoping to destroy the Union fleet and starve Fort Monroe into submission, inflicted great damage with the partially burned "Merrimac" converted into the iron-clad "Virginia", until the arrival of the Federal iron-clad "Monitor". History records that the slug-fest between the steam-driven metal-sheathed warships ended in a draw after a four hour combat in which solid shells caromed off the sides of the iron-clads. Although both ships saw only one major battle, they left lasting marks on history and gave birth to modern navies by showing that wooden ships and sails were not enough.

Jefferson Davis, the President of the Confederate States, has become America's most famous political prisoner as the result of his imprisonment in a casemate (a chamber in the wall of the fort) at Fort Monroe. The cell, with its whitewashed stone walls and barred windows overlooking the green waters of the moat surrounding the fort, recalls vividly that fateful day

of May 22, 1865, when Jefferson Davis, falsely accused of plotting the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, entered as a prisoner of the Union Army. Lt. Col. John J. Craven, Chief Medical Officer at Fort Monroe in 1865, befriended the captured Confederate President. This kind Union Army doctor from Newark, New Jersey, gradually succeeded in relieving the harsh conditions of the casemate confinement and, after four and one-half months, was able to get the prisoner moved to a better place in the fort.

The casemate is shown as it was thought to be when Jefferson Davis was confined in it, part of the time in chains.

Other displays show the history of Fort Monroe, the Battle of the Iron-Clads, information on the Civil War and two World Wars.

The museum is open every day of the year from 8 am to 5 pm and admission is free.

Just recently, at a luncheon meeting, a special Virginia Travel Council award was presented to Dr. Chester D. Bradley, curator of the Fort Monroe Casemate Museum. He was cited for "outstanding contribution to the Virginia travel industry" by originating the museum idea and masterminding its development. He received the award from Hampton Mayor David Montague. Be sure to speak with the genial Doctor when you visit the Museum.

The following article appeared in the July, 1916, issue of "The Confederate Veteran" magazine and ties in rather well with the above article. The Editor would like to thank Mr. Charles J. Affleck for contributing a number of these magazines, which will be a source for many articles in the Virginia Numismatist.

THE FAMOUS BATTLE OF HAMPTON ROADS

By J. F. Shipp, Chattanooga, Tenn.

A recent editorial in the Chattanooga Times referred to the famous battle between the Merrimac and the United States fleet and land batteries at Hampton Roads in 1862 and stated that "the credit and prestige of victory was accorded the Monitor because of the fact that the Merrimac was withdrawn from the conflict and destroyed to prevent her falling as a prize of war into the hands of the Monitor's forces."

The writer of this, like many others who have written of that famous naval engagement, has been misled by erroneous information obtained from so-called history prepared by the press agents and attorneys for the Monitor to bolster up a claim to extort one million dollars from the Federal government as prize money, as the Congressional records at Washington will show.

It may be that the last survivor of the Merrimac's gallant crew is gone. If so, in justice to those departed heroes and in vindication of the truth of

history I feel it my duty to make a brief statement of my personal connection with the rebuilding of the Merrimac and of my personal observations of her engagements with the United States fleet at Hampton Roads and Newport News, in which the Monitor played a part on the second day. In writing this historical sketch it will be necessary to indulge in some reminiscences to explain my observation of that great naval battle.

The company to which I belonged, the Glover Guards, of Jasper County, Ga., later Company G, of the 4th Georgia Regiment, were the first Confederate troops to reach the Gosport Navy Yard after it had been burned and abandoned by the Federal forces, about April 22, 1861. We reached Portsmouth, Va., on the morning of April 27 without camp equipage or commissary supplies. The conditions at that time of the new Confederacy were much the same as those of our country to-day, there being no lack of patriotism on the part of our people, but great lack of preparedness for the

emergency that confronted us.

After getting breakfast at the Ocean Hotel, the company was assigned quarters in the Gosport Navy Yard, in which the smoldering ruins were still smoking. Other companies of Georgia troops arrived in rapid succession, from which were organized the 3d and 4th Georgia Regiments. We remained there for some time guarding the navy yard, patrolling the grounds, and working on details of various kinds. While there I assisted in floating the Merrimac, which lay near the navy yard dock, where she had been scuttled and burned to the water's edge by the Federal forces. I was on the Merrimac a number of times while she was being rebuilt. Later our regiment established a new camp near the beach on the south side of Hampton Roads, which we occupied about May 30, 1861. Our camp site was located about halfway between the mouth of the Elizabeth and Nansemond Rivers, at which points we had poorly equipped land batteries of siege guns. That at the mouth of Elizabeth River was known as Craney's Island, and the one at the mouth of Nansemond was known as Pig's Point. The latter was manned by infantry troops from our regiment, who served in details of one week each. We remained in this new camp a little over eleven months of watchful waiting, watching the Federal forces at Fort Monroe and Newport News in plain view on the opposite side of Hampton Roads and waiting for the coming of the Merrimac, which had long been anxiously awaited.

It was on the morning of March 8, 1862, while serving with a detail from my company at Pig's Point, we learned from the detail which relieved us that bright, crisp March morning that the Merrimac, which had been renamed the Virginia, was on her way down the Elizabeth River. When we had been formally relieved, we went on the beach to catch the first sight of the ship in which we had more than a common interest, as several of her crew were from our regiment and two from our own company, Tom Penn and

Alex Holsenback, both of whom were my boyhood friends.

We took up a position about opposite the Federal shore batteries at Newport News, in front of which lay at anchor the Cumberland and the Congress, also two other vessels whose names we did not know. After waiting on

the beach for several hours, we saw the Virginia slowly round out of the Elizabeth River into Hampton Roads and turn in the direction of Newport News. We were then satisfied that the Cumberland and Congress at Newport News were the objects of her attack and that we had made no mistake in selecting our location to witness the fight. We could see hasty preparations on board the ships and among the shore batteries for action. The deck of the Congress was bedecked with laundry, which the men were hurriedly taking in. The action began, as I now recall it, about two o'clock. The Virginia fired the first shot from her bow gun at the Cumberland, which opened the fight and drew the concentrated fire of both the Cumberland and Congress and the shore batteries on her. By this time the roar and shock of battle was terrific. In the face of this concentrated fire the Virginia continued to deliver her shots with telling effect and headed direct for the Cumberland, which she rammed with a terrific crash, distinctly heard above the din of battle. It looked as though the Virginia had some difficulty in releasing herself from the Cumberland, but when she backed away she delivered her bow gun into the Cumberland with disastrous results. She left her prow in the side of the Cumberland and so twisted the stem as to cause a leak in her bow.

We saw the Cumberland as she slowly sank beneath the water. She went down fighting her guns, with her colors flying, which were never lowered or removed. We saw the water shoot from the mouth of the cannon when the last shots were delivered. The men and officers of the Cumberland were driven from their guns by water filling the ship. Many leaped into the bay to save themselves from being carried down with their sinking vessel, while many others of the gallant crew saved themselves by climbing the mast and clinging to the rigging.

I wish here to say that the heroes of the naval engagement at Hampton Roads in 1862 were not the officers and crew of the Monitor. That honor belongs to the heroic officers and crew of the ill-fated Cumberland.

When the Congress and the Minnesota (the latter on her way from Fortress Monroe to assist her sister ships) saw the fate that had befallen the Cumberland and the ineffectiveness of their concentrated fire on the Virginia, they took refuge in shallow water to save themselves from being rammed.

After the Virginia had sunk the Cumberland, she turned her attention to the Congress and the shore batteries. She soon riddled the Congress and silenced most of the guns from the shore.

About this time we saw descending the James River the Patrick Henry, The Jamestown, and the Teaser, coming to the assistance of the Virginia. However, the Federal forces had been greatly disabled and demoralized by the destructive fire from the Virginia. Very soon we saw the white flag displayed from the mast of the Congress, which was then aground, most of her guns being out of action and a number of her crew killed or wounded.

The steam tugs Beaufort and Raleigh, that composed the Virginia's escort, went alongside the Congress and took aboard some of her wounded. The

tugs, however, were soon driven away by the fire from the Federal infantry on the shore, in which several of our men were wounded, including Lieutenant Minor, and also some of the prisoners from aboard the Congress.

Later the Virginia set the Congress on fire with hot shot to prevent her from again falling into the hands of the Federal forces. Up to this time the Virginia had been the focus for the fire of over one hundred guns at short range; and while everything outside had been shot away, still her armor was not materially damaged. She had been given a heavy coat of tallow, so that the shots which struck her glanced off with no effect except the shock of the blow. During all this terrif engagement her only casualties were two killed and eight wounded, one of whom was Captain Buchanan. The muzzles of her guns were shot away.

When the sun went down on the carnage and destruction of that eventful afternoon, the Virginia had rammed and sunk the Cumberland, riddled and set fire to the Congress, destroyed one large transport steamer, two schooners, and silenced the land batteries. This wonderful record was made right under the guns of Newport News. It was about dusk when the Virginia, using a boarding pike for a flagstaff, hoisted her colors and steamed away to her anchorage at the mouth of the Elizabeth River. She was accompanied by her escort. Of over one hundred guns whose shots had been concentrated on her for over three hours, there was not one left that was able to fire a parting salute to that grand old ship.

At intervals through the night we could hear the explosions of the guns as they were set off by the fire of the burning Congress. Her magazine exploded about midnight, sending a flame of fire high in the air. This was the closing scene of the first day's battle.

The second day's engagement was opened by the Virginia with the Minnesota about eight o'clock on March 9. I was on the beach with several members of my company and saw the first shot.

The Monitor had made her appearance during the night and was standing near the Minnesota. She at once entered the engagement by advancing to close range with the Virginia, which was constantly dividing her shots between the Monitor and the Minnesota. The Monitor kept shifting her position and firing at the Virginia from different angles and at times from very close range; while the Minnesota, still aground some distance away, kept up her fire on the Virginia. We saw one of the shots from the latter blow up a steamer lying beside the Minnesota.

The fight was kept up several hours, and finally the Monitor, appraently unharmed, withdrew in the direction of Fort Monroe. It was learned later, however, that one of the Virginia's shots had entered the pilot house. wounding Captain Worden, the commanding officer. The Monitor had withdrawn beyond the shallow water, and the Virginia could not follow because of her draft being over twenty-two feet, while that of the Monitor was about ten feet. The Virginia held her position for about an hour awaiting the return of the Monitor; and when she did not return the Virginia slowly steamed up the Elizabeth River to the Gosport Navy Yard, where the

officers and crew could be given a much-needed rest from their poorly ventilated ship.

The Virginia needed some repairs and to have some unfinished work completed. She had on her trial trip fulfilled the highest expectations of her builders, officers, and crew and with complete satisfaction to the Confederate government. She had revolutionized the naval construction of the world. She had brought humiliation to the United States navy and consternation to the Federal authorities. She had brought terror and the deepest anxiety to the people in all the Atlantic Coast cities. It was heralded far and near that the Virginia could destroy the United States navy and burn all the cities, including the capital. So great was the fright and panic in Washington that the Secretary of Was ordered that canal boats and other craft be loaded with stone and sunk in the channel of the Potomac River to prevent her from ascending the river and destroying Washington City. The records show that so great was the excitement a hurried cabinet meeting was held at the instance of the Secretary of War. It has been stated that President Lincoln was the only one present who did not lose his head. When the Secretary of War and Commodore Dahlgren insisted on blocking the channel of the Potomac, Mr. Lincoln stated that millions had been spent to open and keep open the channel and that it would be inadvisable to obstruct it until the Virginia had passed the guns and the fleet at Fort Monroe. It is also stated that boats loaded with stone were held in readiness to close the channel.

In truth, there never was any reason for the great fright of the Federal authorities on account of the destruction wrought by the Virginia at Hampton Roads. She could not have reached Washington on account of her great draft even if there had been no obstruction in the Potomac River. She was not seaworthy, and her speed was not over five miles an hour.

The Virginia's squadron again entered Hampton Roads near the guns of Old Point for the purpose of drawing the Monitor into the Roads. The plan was, when she came out beyond the guns of Old Point to close in and board her at any cost and take charge of her in a hand-to-hand fight. Every man knew his part and had the courage to perform the duty assigned him. The Monitor, however, declined to come out from under the cover of Old Point.

The Jamestown and steam tug Raleigh on April 11 captured two government transports loaded with hay, coal, and grain and towed them to Norfolk. They hauled down the flags from the transports and hung them at half mast on the Jamestown and Raleigh under the Confederate flag. They expected the Monitor to resent this insult, but she still declined.

I was on the beach every day except when prevented by occasional camp duties, and the only time the Monitor came beyond the guns of Fort Monroe and the Rip-Raps after her engagement with the Virginia on March 9 was on May 8, when she, with several other vessels of the Union fleet, came far enough to shell the land batteries at Sewell's Point; but when the Virginia advanced they withdrew under the guns of their land batteries at

Fort Monroe and the Rip-Raps.

General McClellan's Peninsular Campaign and his march on Richmond, resulting in the battles of Yorktown, Williamsburg, and Seven Pines in the latter part of May, made it necessary to evacuate Norfolk and defend the capital of the Confederacy. Norfolk was evacuated on May 10, and the troops there were sent to Petersburg and Richmond.

The Monitor never engaged the Virginia after March 9, and the latter was not destroyed until the night of May 10 by her own officers and crew at the mouth of the Elizabeth River, near Craney's Island, and they reported the next day for duty at Richmond. When Norfolk was evacuated, the Virginia had no base for coal or repairs. She was not seaworthy, and on account of her great draft she could not enter the James River.

The Monitor was not the cause, directly or indirectly, of the destruction of the Virginia.

CHANGE PROPOSED FOR REVERSE OF COINS

Mrs. Mary Brooks, the Director of the Mint, announced a proposal to change the reverse side of the one dollar and half dollar coins, beginning in 1975.

The coins are proposed to be released on July 4, 1975, and would continue in production as determined by the Secretary of the Treasury.

It is assumed that a contest to design the new reverses would be held. Details would be announced later.

Calendar of Coin Shows

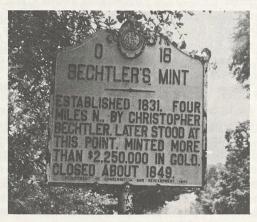
Club	Location	Date
Montecello Coin Club	Mount Vernon Motel, Charlottesville	March 3 - 4
Tidewater Coin Club	Lake Wright Motel, Norfolk	March 24 - 25
Salem Coin Club	Salem-Roanoke County Civic Center - Salem	April 13 - 15
Shenandoah Valley Coin Club	Holiday Inn - Staunton	May 5 - 6
Shenandoah Numismatic Society	George Washington Hotel, Winchester	May 26 - 27
Metropolitan Washington Numismatic Assn	Sheraton-Park Hotel, Washington, D. C.	July 12 - 15
Roanoke Valley Coin Club	Roanoke Valley Civic Center - Roanoke	July 27 - 29
Blue Ridge Numismatic Assn	Civic Center, Burmingham,	August 2 - 5
American Numismatic Assn	Sheraton-Boston Hotel Boston, Mass	August 23 - 27
Virginia Numismatic Assn	Natural Bridge Hotel Natural Bridge	Sept 21, 22, 23
	0	

Cont. from last issue Volume 9 Number1

"North Carolina Gold and the Bechtler Mint"

by Brent H. Hughes

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Today this highway marker in the town of Rutherfordton, N.C. marks the location of the Bechtler home after it was moved into town. Actually the house beside the marker is not the Bechtler home which was moved again years ago to a site behind the original site.



This house in Rutherfordton, N.C. is the original Bechtler home as it appears to a long-time resident of the area.

10



Stack's Classification

No. S-1 \$1.00 CAROLINA. 28 G., Star, "N" Reversed.

Obverse: 28 G in field, star to left. BECHTLER RUTHERF

around.

Reverse: ONE with "N" reversed, star to right, DOLLAR

CAROLINA around. Plain edge.



S-2 \$1.00 N. CAROLINA. 28 G., No Star.

Obverse: 28 G in field, without star, C. BECHTLER

RUTHERF., around.

Reverse: ONE in center, N:CAROLINA GOLD. DOLLAR

around. Fine reeded edge. This variety has high 28 G and is without colon after "C". On another variety the 28 G is centered and has a colon after

"C", the latter variety being classified as S-3.



S-4 \$1.00 N. CAROLINA. 30 G.

Obverse: 30 G, star below, in center of field, C. BECHTLER.

RUTHERF: around.

Reverse: ONE in field, N:CAROLINA GOLD. DOLLAR.

Fine reeded edge.



S-5 \$2.50 CAROLINA. 67 G., 21 C.

Obverse: 67 G. 21 in center of field, CAROLINA GOLD above, CARATS below.

Reverse: 250 in center, BECHTLER RUTHERF; around

Plain edge.



S-6 \$2.50 CAROLINA. 70 G., 20 C.

Obverse: 70 G., 20 in center of field, CAROLINA GOLD

above, CARATS below.

Reverse: 250 in field, BECHTLER RUTHERF; around.

Plain edge.



S-7 \$2.50 GEORGIA. 64 G., 22 C

Obverse: 64 G. 22 in field, CARATS below, GEORGIA GOLD around.

Reverse: 2 50 in field, BECHTLER. RUTHERF. around. Plain edge. This variety has irregular 22 on obverse.



S-8 \$2.50 GEORGIA. 64 G., 22 C

Obverse: 64 G. 22 in field, CARATS below, GEORGIA GOLD around.

Reverse: 2 50 in field, BECHTLER. RUTHERF. around. Plain edge. This variety has "even 22" on obverse.



S-9 \$2.50 NORTH CAROLINA. 75 G., 20 C.

Obverse: RUTHERFORD, C. BECHTLER, ASSAYER in

concentric circles.

Reverse: 2 50, 20 C, 75 G. in field, NORTH CAROLINA around. The word "GOLD" is above the "2 50".

Beaded border with a fine reeded edge.



S-10 \$2.50 NORTH CAROLINA. 20 C without 75 G.

Obverse: RUTHERFORD, C. BECHTLER, ASSAYER in

in concentric circles.

Reverse: 250 and 20 C in field, NORTH CAROLINA

around. The word "GOLD" is above the "2 50".

Beaded border with a fine reeded edge.



S-11 \$2.50 NORTH CAROLINA. 20 C without 75 G.

Obverse: RUTHERFORD, C. BECHTLER, ASSAYER in concentric circles.

Reverse: 250., 20 C in field, NORTH CAROLINA GOLD around. The word "CAROLINA" appears above "2 50", not "GOLD" as on S-9 and S-10. Extremely rare; die apparently cracked early in use and was discarded.

Fine beaded border. Very fine reeded edge.



S-12 \$2.50 NORTH CAROLINA, 20 C with 75 G on obverse.

Obverse: Star and 75 G in field, C. BECHTLER ASSAYER

around.

Reverse: 250, 20 C in field, NORTH CAROLINA GOLD

around.

Wide reeding on edge.



S-13 \$5.00 CAROLINA. RUTHERFORD, 140 G, 20 C.

Obverse: 140 G. 20 in field. CARATS below, CAROLINA GOLD, AUGUST 1, 1834 in concentric circles, 20

is close to CARATS.

Reverse: 5 DOLLARS in field, C. BECHTLER AT

RUTHERF, around. Reeded edge.

S-14 variety is same as S-13 except that the coin has plain edge.



S-15 \$5.00 CAROLINA. RUTHERF., 140 G, 20 C.

Obverse: 140 G. 20 in field, CARATS below, CAROLINA GOLD, AUGUST 1, 1834 in 3/4 concentric circles. In this variety obverse lettering position is different and "10" is high above "CARATS".

Reverse: 5 DOLLARS in field, C. BECHTLER AT RUTHERF, around.

Plain edge.

S-16 \$5.00 CAROLINA. RUTHERF., 140 G, 20 C

Obverse: 140 G. 20 in field. CARATS below, CAROLINA GOLD, AUGUST 1, 1834 in concentric circles. 20 is close to CARATS.

Reverse: 5 DOLLARS in field, C. BECHTLER AT RUTHERF, around.
Plain edge.

This variety is a mule, being the obverse of S-13 and the reverse of S-15. Very rare - two specimens in the Walton collection.

The date August 1, 1834 which appears on some of these coins was the result of a new law passed on June 28, 1834 which reduced the weight of standard gold and in effect placed our country on a gold standard. The Secretary of the Treasury recommended to the Director of the Mint that the gold coins of the reduced weight bear the date August 1, 1834. Instead of this, however, a new U.S. gold design was used (the motto was omitted). Christopher Bechtler, ever respectful of government authority, carried out the recommendation to the letter by placing the date on his coins.



S-17 \$5.00 CAROLINA. 134 G, 21 C.

NEWS OF OUR CLUBS

Washington Numismatic Society

The 1973 elected officers have taken over the operation of the Club, and ask for the new committee members to join with them in the program for the new year.

The speaker for the January program was Mr. Charles Hoskins, head of the American Numismatic Certification Service for the ANA.

For the February meeting, the theme will be "Other Hobbies," featuring displays of collectibles from hobbies other than numismatics. This should be of interest to all.

Salem Coin Club

Since the January meeting was cancelled due to snow, the new officers will assume their duties at the February meeting at the Salem Civic Center. Plans are being firmed up for the Coin Show on the club's 13 anniversary at the Civic Center on April 13-15. Bourse chairman is Robert E. Richardson 4338 Cresthill Drive, S.W., Roanoke, Virginia 24018.

Meherrin Valley Coin Club

At the January meeting there were 21 members present and two new members. One of the new members was a junior, which is most encouraging. Proposals made for future club projects were an auction and a coin show. Our friends over the river have a fine, active club.

Virginia Peninsula Coin Club

Past VNA President Bob New acted as master of ceremonies and inducted the new club officers during the February dinner meeting at the Elks Club in Hampton. Many interesting exhibits were displayed by the members, including fine ones from junior members. Special congratulations are due to Margery Hannah for the fine club bulletin she designs and that Frank Hannah prints for the club, it is one of the finest we have seen.

Richmond Coin Club

Our special correspondent from the Richmond area reported by pigeon post rather than by telephone this month, but we gathered that the new slate of officers was sworn in at the January meeting and is starting off on the program for the new year. We are going to have to get that pigeon some improved feed and see if we can speed him up a bit.

Tidewater Coin Club

New Club officers are to be inducted at the annual dinner meeting at the Lake Wright Motel on March 23rd, the night before the Coin Show opens there. They invited you to come and see the two day show and enjoy the fellowship.

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Southside Virginia Numismatic Association

Secretary Susan Masterson reports that the Club in Petersburg enjoyed a very stimulating and educational month in December. On December 5th, the club participated in a coin quiz based on the 1973 Red Book. Junior Greg Wills won the special doorprizes by making the highest score with only one error. For his efforts, Greg is now the proud owner of an uncirculated silver dollar, an uncirculated Mexican 2 peso gold piece and a 1963 proof set. Then on December 19th, the auction was combined with the Christmas party. To further extend the Christmas spirit, each member brought a numismatic-related gift valued at approximately one dollar for exchange. We are sure that every member enjoyed these December activities.

Monticello Coin Club

The coin club at Charlottesville held its monthly meeting at the Elks Club with 17 members present. Mr. Charles Echols gave a most informative talk on the grading of coins. Plans were formalized for the Annual Coin Show to be held at the Mount Vernon Motel on Route 29 North on March 3 and 4. Be sure to visit this very active Club and enjoy the show.

Shenandoah Valley Coin Club

An excellent steak dinner started the program at the annual winter banquet at the Verona Moose Lodge on November 27th. Installation of the new officers was conducted by William Irving: President - James Oberg; Vice President - W. E. Showalter; Secretary - Lucille McClung and Treasurer - William Le Doux. Awards and door prizes were presented. Plans are being made for the 9th annual coin show at the Holiday Inn at Staunton on May 5 and 6 at the February meeting, since the January meeting had to be called off on account of snow. Come to the Valley and enjoy the show.

Shenandoah Numismatic Society

Garland Harman, the President, renews his invitation to come to the Coin Show to be held on May 26 and 27 at the George Washington Hotel in downtown Winchester. Visit the Valley, see the Show, and for an extra bonus, talk with Uncle Charlie Affleck. You just can't beat that combination!

Israel Numismatic Society of Tidewater Virginia

Over one hundred people braved snow and freezing weather to attend the official inauguration of the new Israel Numismatic Society in Norfolk on Sunday night of February 11th at the Jewish Community Center in Norfolk.

Guests of honor were: Hon G. William Whitehurst, US Congressman; Hon. Yitzhak Avni, Director-General, Israel Government Coins & Medals Corp; Hon. Rafael, Consul of Israel in New York, and Mr. Morris Bram, President, American Israel Numismatic Association.

Talks, Israel folk music, a film, displays and refreshments rounded out an interesting and informative program.

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VIRGINIA COUNTY NOTES

GEORGE MOREHEAD

Route 1, Box 90 Moseley, Virginia 23120

APPLICANTS FOR REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

The following individuals have applied for membership in the Virginia Numismatic Association and will become a member within 20 days of the mailing date of this notice unless some adverse reaction is received, in which case the matter will be acted on by the board of directors:

Applicants Mr. Bedford F. Penn, Alexandria, Virginia Sponsors Howard Spain

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The Virginia Numismatic Association P.O. Box 353 Hampton, Virginia 23369

The following programs are available:

- 1. Coins of Bible Days
- 2. Die Varieties of the Early United States Quarters #1
- 3. Die Varieties of the Early United States Quarters #2
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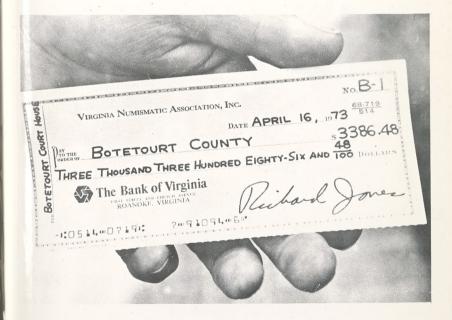
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THE YIRGINIA NUMISMATIST





VOLUME 9 NUMBER 3 1973

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

All Mail relating to The Virginia Numismatist should by addressed to:

DON ROBERTS, Editor
P. O. Box 353, Hampton, Virginia 23369

Address all Official mail of the Virginia Numismatic Association to:
RICHARD JONES, Secretary-Treasurer
P. O. Box 1981, Roanoke, Virginia 24009

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THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

1973 NUMBER II VOLUME 9

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The VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST is the Official Publication of The Virginia Numismatic Association, Inc. and is published six times each year. Articles and Items for publication are welcome and Solicited. All six issues are mailed from Hampton, Virginia at the Third Class Postal Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure and send us your Change of Address.

All mail relating to THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST and ADVERTISING therein should be directed to THE EDITOR, P.O.Box 353 Hampton, Virginia 23369.

Direct all other Correspondence about Membership, Address Changes, etc. to the Secretary RICHARD JONES, P.O.Box 1981 Roanoke, Virginia 24009.

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE



With the coming of spring, the dogwood, redbud and coin shows are blooming out all over our beautiful State of Virginia. Let's take advantage of the opportunities for a week end trip to see the sights, renew old friendships and get new material for our collections. National Coin Week and Garden Week in Virginia follow and complement each othermix fun, history and travel with your family while you take a welcome break from your regular schedule.

I am greatly pleased to join with each of you in congratulating all concerned for the

success of the effort to raise funds for the rebuilding of the Botetourt County Courthouse at Fincastle from the sale of the medal issued by the medal issued by The Virginia Numismatic Association.

George K. Morehead, President VNA

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

The By-Laws of the Virginia Numismatic Association provide that an Election Committee shall present a slate of officers for each expiring elected office not later than July 15th of each year. During the period June 15th through July 15th additional nominations may be accepted from any member in good standing. Names of all nominees are to be published during the month of August and voted on by mail or at the Annual Convention in September, by ballot.

The following offices are open for nomination: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms and seven (7) members of the Board of Directors. All offices are for a period of one (1) year except that of the Secretary-Treasurer is for two (2) years.

The By-Laws further provide that election of the last three Past Presidents, who remain active and in good standing, to the Board of Directors is automatic. Those automaticly relected will be: Robert M. New, James M. Beard and George K. Morehead.

Send all nominations to the Secretary between June 15th and July 15th.

PROFILE OF CHARLES AFFLECK by Richard Jones

Charles J. Affleck, VNA Life Member 1, is a native of Winchester, Virginia, "where the South begins." His first regular employment was appropriately enough in a Winchester bank. One tends to wonder why he happened to pick the "Union" Bank of Winchester, however.

His interests in collecting started early in life. First stamps, and when illness forced his retirement in 1951, his interests became more intense and more varied. After returning to the family home in old Winchester, the rich history of the Shenandoah Valley stimulated his interest in the philatelic and numismatic history of Virginia and the nation. At a time when few people expressed an interest in confederate and obsolete paper money, Charlie recognized its rich and important history, and within a few years he had amassed a truly outstanding reference collection.

His first publication, co-authored with Ben Douglas, covered the bonds of the Confederate States of America. After many years of research into Virginia numismatics, he finally agreed in 1967 to have VNA begin publication of his work covering the obsolete paper money of Virginia, with the intent that this work be updated in coming years as new material is discovered. It is typical of Charlie that all profits from the publication and sale of this material goes into the VNA treasury to help finance future educational ventures. His two volumes "Obsolete Paper Money of Virginia" are considered the most outstanding works yet published on the obsolete paper money of any of the United States.

Charlie's talents and abilities are as varied as his collecting interests. His contributions to VNA have not been limited to the paper money research field. His early training in the sales division of General Mills, Inc. has been put to good use in VNA, for Charlie has been our best salesman in recent years. As President of VNA, he brought back some of the enthusiasm so evident in the first years of VNA which had somehow been lost. As Convention Chairman, Bourse Chairman, Publicity Chairman and general factotum, Charlie has been a most important part of all our Annual Conventions of recent years.

Charlie's contributions of VNA and to numismatics in general have been outstanding, and now as he enters his 81st year, we all wish Charlie many more years of active membership in VNA - after all, he is Life Member No. 1

NEW S. C. STATE CLUB FORMED

Our friends to the south of us have recently formed the South Carolina Numismatic Association. We sent them our best wishes and several copies of our Virginia Numismatist. Portraits, coin photographs and caption data on the following article courtesy of Stack's and the Smithsonian Institution.

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"Horth Garolina Gold and the Bechtler Mint"

by Brent H. Hughes

Gold Coins of Christopher Bechtler, Sr.:



Obverse: 134 G. and star in field, CAROLINA GOLD: 21

CARATS around.

Reverse: 5 DOLLARS in field, C. BECHTLER AT

RUTHERF; Star, around.

Plain edge.



S-18 \$5.00 GEORGIA. RUTHERFORD, 138 G 22 C.

Obverse: 128. G and star in field, GEORGIA GOLD. 22

CARATS, around.

Reverse: 5 DOLLARS, in field, C. BECHTLER, AT

RUTHERFORD. and star, around.

Plain edge.



S-19 \$5.00 GEORGIA 128 G., 22 C. RUTHERF.

Obverse: 128 G and star in field, GEORGIA GOLD. 22 CARATS, around.

Reverse: 5 DOLLARS, in field, C. BECHTLER, AT RUTHF; with star in field.

Plain edge.



S-20 \$5.00 NORTH CAROLINA. 150 G., 20 C.

Obverse: C. BECHTLER, ASSAYER. with star, RUTHER-

FORD COUNTY, in concentric circles.

Reverse: 5 DOLLARS., 20 DARATS., 150 C., with star in

field. NORTH CAROLINA GOLD around.

Beaded borders and reeded edge.



S-21 \$5.00 NORTH CAROLINA. 20 CARATS, without 150 G.

Obverse: C. BECHTLER, ASSAYER, with star, RUTHER-

FORD COUNTY, in concentric circles.

Reverse: 5 DOLLARS. 20 CARATS, in field, NORTH

CAROLINA GOLD, with star. Beaded borders and reeded edge.



S-22 \$1.00 CAROLINA. 27 G., 21 C.

Obverse: 27.G. in center, CAROLINA GOLD. 21 C around. Reverse: Large number "1" in center, A. BECHTLER, around at top of numeral, DOL: and star below.



S-23 \$5.00 CAROLINA. 134 G, 21 C.

Obverse: 134.G.: 21. in field, CARATS., below. CAROLINA GOLD, around.

Reverse: 5 DOLLARS in field, A. BECHTLER. RUTHER-

FORD, with star around.

Reeded edge.



S-24 \$5.00 CAROLINA. 128 G, 22 C.

Obverse: 128.G. 22. in field, CARATS., below, CAROLINA

GOLD, around.

Reverse: 5 DOLLARS in field, A. BECHTLER. RUTHER-

FORD. with star around.

Reeded edge.

Gold Coins of Augustus Bechtler:



S-25 \$5.00 CAROLINA. 141 G. 20 C.

Obverse: 141.G. 20 in field, CARATS. below, CAROLINA

GOLD, around.

Reverse: 5 DOLLARS in field. A. BECHTLER. RUTHER-

FORD, with star around.

Reeded edge.



UNITED STATES HALF EAGLE (\$5.00 GOLD), 1834, the plain 4 variety, with C. Bechtler counterstamp. A regular issue United States gold coin of 1834 with counterstamp "C. BECHTLER, N.C." behind head of Liberty and "22" (probably 22 carats) on neck.

The following story was inscribed on the plastic holder that housed that unusual coin: "One of Mr. Bechtlers clients bought a horse in 1838. He had all Bechtler \$5 gold pieces to pay for the horse. He had a U.S. \$5 gold piece to pay for the saddle but the man selling the horse and saddle would not accept the \$5 U.S. gold unless it was OKed by Mr. Bechtler. So Mr. Bechtler stamped it with his gold bar stamper. Only two known. Very rare."

There is no proof for this story in legal documents available.





BECHTLER \$5.00 GOLD AS "TRADE BOOSTER"

C. Bechtler. \$5.00. 134 G. 21 C. This coin has a large punch mark in the center which is explained as follows: In the large plastic holder that housed the Walton Collection of Bechtler Gold Coins, the following story was inscribed under the coin, "Bechtler \$5.00 gold piece used as a trade booster by sinking a lump of gold worth about \$2 or \$3 in the face of the coin. When given in change to the purchaser and returned to the store he would receive \$10 in trade."

This concludes the article on "North Carolina Gold and the Bechtler Mint". VNA would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Brent Hughes for writting this very fine article and making it available to "The Virginia Numismatist." We would also like to thank Stack's Coin Company of New York City for making the photos available as well as the data contained in the discriptions of coins in their Sale Catalog of the George O. Walton sale.

NATIONAL COIN WEEK - 1973

Be sure to let us know what you or your club did for National Coin Week this year, so we can pass it on to our readers.

Frank and Margery Hannah put a most interesting display for the Virginia Numismatic Association in the window of Reed Walton's Coin Shop in Mercury Mall Shopping Center, Hampton. Featured in the display were the dies for the Botetourt County Court House Medal, as well as the medal itself in bronze, silver and gold. It made an eye-catching display.

NEW SPMC EMBLEM

The long-promised official Society of Paper Money Collectors emblem drawn by Brent Hughes will be a reverse engraving concept adapted from the traditional intaglio printing plate for bank notes. Our congratulations to Brent Hughes and the SPMC.

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SECURITY OF THE MAILS IN THE 1840s

The Security of the Mails was considered to be of the utmost importance and records show great concern over lost pouches and robberies.

The Postmaster General did not have authority to reimburse patrons for their losses and in a reply to a complaint about money stolen from the mails, Pickering wrote: I know of but one effectual Security — Cut bank notes into two parts, send one and wait for an acknowledgement of it's receipt, before the other half is forwarded.





Extract from letter dated March 10, 1840 in New Market, Virginia Worthy Brother,

I send you the second halves of notes, amounting to sixty dollars; i. e. half of a \$50.00 note and half of a \$10.00.

I remain your brother, Silon



Thanks to Charlie Affleck for this unusual story.



Mr. Jesse Jones, Chairman, Botetourt County Board of Supervisors, accepts check representing profits from the sale of Medals, from Frank Hannah, center and William Hannah, right.

\$3,386.48 GIVEN TO BOTETOURT COUNTY

On April 16, 1973 a deligation of VNA members consisting of Richard Jones, Sec. Treasurer of VNA; William W. Hannah, who originated the idea for the Botetourt County Medal; and Frank Hannah designer of the medal, presented a check for \$3,386.48 to the Board of Supervisors of Botetourt County. This check represented the profits from the sale of the Botetourt County Court House Medal, which VNA had struck.

When fire partially destroyed the court house in January of 1971, efforts were undertaken to raise funds to restore the historic old court house, built in 1847 and designed by Thomas Jefferson. VNA sought and was given approval to strike a medal commorating the court house. All of the profits realized from the sale of these medals would be turned over to the county, to aid in the restoration of the court house.

Work has begun on the restoration of the building and all of us in the Virginia Numismatic Association can be proud of the past we played in restoring this historic building in Virginia.

A permanent display space will be provided in one of the walls in the new building for VNA. The actual dies used in striking the medals as well as samples in bronze, silver, and gold will be on permanent display.

A few of the medals remain and may be purchased from:

Mr. A. T. Baskerville, Exec. Sec. Botetourt County Board of Supervisors Fincastle, Virginia

NEWS OF OUR CLUBS

Washington Numismatic Society

At the February meeting awards for the year 1972 were presented by Diane Dietz, the Exhibit Chairwoman. Club Past Presidents were presented medals at the March meeting. The program for the April meeting will be a slide program by Brent Hughes, "introduction to U. S. Fractional Currency" Visitors are welcome to attend these well planned meetings when in Washington.

Salem Coin Club

Club meetings were devoted to making plans for the Coin Show to be held at the Salem-Roanoke County Civic Center in Salem on April 13 - 15.

Virginia Peninsula Coin Club

The feature of the March meeting at the Elks Club in Hampton was to hear Duan McSmith tell some of the interesting highlights of Egyptian coinage. In April the VNA slide program "Early Money of Virginia" was presented. The club wishes to thank Bill Dulaney for his fine articles on coins and stamps in the Saturday editions of the Times-Hearld.

Shenandoah Valley Coin Club

The March and April meetings will feature planning for the Coin Show to be held in Staunton at the Holiday Inn on May 5 - 6. Stop by and enjoy the fellowship there.

Metropolitan Washington Numismatic Association

Our friends in Washington have asked us to be sure to remind you that the location of their Coin Show has been moved from the Sheraton-Park Hotel to the Sheraton Motor Inn, 8500 Annapolis Road, Lanham, Maryland. This is a suburb of Washington, reached from the Capital Beltway I-495 by Exit 30W, Route 450. The new site will be much easier to get to than downtown Washington, offers better parking, more modern motel rooms and avoids the city congestion. Mark the date of July 13 - 15 on your calendar to be sure you don't miss this one.

If your Club is not reported on above, it's because we have not heard from your secretary since the last issue. Please see the listing of coin shows to see that you do not miss any. A great deal of work and planning goes into each one, all for your benefit. Go see the exhibits, find some coins or paper money you need to fill that empty space in your collection and talk with old friends that are there too.



SIGNERS OF NOTES

Most folks collect to complete a goal — either a series of coins or perhaps the paper money of a particular State or Colony. Everyone has a reason — almost everyone. Some folks, like me, just accumulate because the old pocketbook won't allow us to get the real tough items of any series. But we can all have fun and still be within reason if we collect a topic. Old hat? Heck, no. Make the topic yourself. Here're two notes — one, the State of Mississippi - \$5.00, 1st july 1962 signed by Geo. Mason for Treasurer; the other, \$5.00 Confederate States of America, Sept. 2, 1861, signed by E Mason. Got a couple more in the book, one of which is on a Michigan bank, also signed by a Mason. The fun here is you probably won't find too many with your name so it can't cost a lot unless you're a Smith or Jones. It you're bored or stuck why not look around. You may have had an ancestor.

Walt Mason

VNA MEMBERSHIP PINS

If you missed out on getting your VNA membership pin that was introduced in Virginia Beach at the 1972 Convention, it's not too late! We have a supply of pins with Cluch Backs for men, Pin Backs for men or women, and Charm Loops for those who wish to wear them on a bracelet. The prices for each of them is \$2.50 and they may be ordered from VNA at P.O. Box 353 / Hampton, Virginia 23669.

Calendar of Coin Shows

Clu	ıb	Location	Date
Fre	edericksburg Coin Club	Fredericksburg Armory	April 28 - 29
She	enandoah Valley Coin ab	Holiday Inn - Staunton	May 5 - 6
Ma	ryland State Numismatic sn	Pikesville Armory, Balt	May 5 - 6
Sor	uthside Virginia Coin ıb	Holiday Inn, Petersburg	May 6
	enandoah Numismatic ciety	George Washington Hotel Winchester	May 26 - 27
	etropolitan Washington Imismatic Assn	Sheraton Motor Inn, Lanham, Md 8500 Annapolis Road	July 13 - 15
Ro	oanoke Valley Coin Club	Roanoke Valley Civic Center, Roanoke	July 27 - 29
	ue Ridge Numismatic	Civic Center, Burmingham, Ala	August 2 - 5
	merican Numismatic ssn	Sheraton-Boston Hotel Boston, Mass.	August 23 - 27
Vi	rginia Numismatic Assn	Natural Bridge Hotel Natural Bridge	Sept 21, 22, 23
	iddle Atlantic umismatic Assn	Host Inn, Harrisburg, Pa	Nov 2 - 4

APPLICANTS FOR REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

The following individuals have applied for membership in the Virginia Numismatic Association and will become a member within 20 days of the mailing date of this notice unless some adverse reaction is received, in which case the matter will be acted on by the board of directors:

Applicants	Sponsors	
Preston A. Coiner, Charlottesville, Va.	Richard Jones	
Israel Numismatic Society of Tidewater Virginia		

BOOK REVIEW

Mint Mark C C — The story of the United States Mint at Carson City, Nevada. Paper covers, 124 pages, \$4.95 from the Author, Howard Hickson, The Northeastern Nevada Museum, P.O. Box 503, Elko, Nevada 89801.

This first history of the Carson City mint is most timely in view of the sale of the Carson City dollars by the General Services Administration.

Mr. Hickson has presented here an informative and absorbing book with the people, the times, the politics and the politicians and the economic conditions that brought forth the Mint at Carson City and then destroyed it.

When the mines in California were declining, the men who were there still had the gold fever - and spread out in search of other areas where the golden metal could be found.

One of the places where it was found was the Comstock lode - the towns of Virginia City, Gold Hill, Silver City, Nevada.

Rather than freight the gold and silver to San Francisco to the mint there, Abraham Curry and others proposed that a branch mint be established at Carson City to coin the bullion close to the source, for use by the people in the area.

The new branch mint started off with high hopes, but no one there realized that the death knell would be sounded by the thirty year war of Germany to go on the gold standard.

This book will be most interesting to anyone who collects coins and the stories behind them.

WASHINGTON NEWS

Mrs. Mary Brooks, Director of the United States Mint, has announced that the Bureau of the Mint has discontinued the acceptance of orders for 1973 Uncirculated Coin Sets as of April 15th., and will begin accepting orders for the 1973 Eisenhower Silver Proof Dollars on May 1st. These orders should be addressed to Bureau of the Mint, 55 Mint Street, San Francisco, California, 94103.

Hearings are scheduled by the Congress on proposals for easing the current restrictions on private ownership of gold by United States citizens and one by the Mint for design changes on the reverse of the dollar and half-dollar for the Bicentennial.

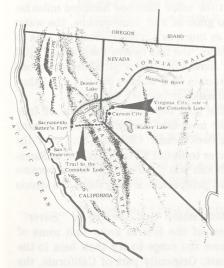
It has been our contention for years that U. S. citizens should be able to own gold coins for their collections and that the Bicentennial in 1976 should be marked by the issue of a special two dollar U. S. Note and a complete set of special coins, from one cent through one dollar. A special gold coin for this purpose has also been suggested, if legislation were passed in time.

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The Mint seems to be against these proposals, citing various reasons why they should not be done. Many of us visited in Canada when they had their Centennial; they had no difficulties that we could see with a special one dollar bill and a complete set of special coins (very attractive ones, too).

We suggest that all interested persons make their wishes in these matters known to the Congressmen and Senators, so that legislation could be passed in time.

After all, with the seniorage on coins and the low cost of printing paper money, it should prove very lucrative to the government. With proof silver dollars priced at ten dollars, why should they fuss at our proposal?



"The COMSTOCK LODE"

Source of the Carson City Silver Dollars

by BRENT HUGHES

The Federal Government, in it's efforts to entice bids on the Carson City silver dollars in the "Great Silver Sale" of 1973, came out with it's now famous brochure touting the coins in the most glowing terms. Among the phrases used to whet the public's appetite was "a true momento, these coins were

made from the silver mined from the famous Comstock Lode". Words to excite even the most callous investor, Comstock Lode brings forth visions of miners and mining camps, hoards of new millionaires who "struck it rich in the romantic West", and mountains of pure silver just waiting for the pick and shovel. The general public will probably be content with this impression, but serious collectors should want to know more of the famous strike, where it took place, who was involved and how much silver was taken out. It is a fascinating story which has taken its rightful place in our nation's history.

It all began with gold fever, that peculiar malady that affects man to a single-minded search for a metal that teases him, hypnotizes him and in most cases eludes him, leaving the hunter frustrated, penniless and occasionally mad. Such was the epidemic in our country which led thousands of would-

be millionaires to head west to California in 1849 to the cry of "Gold!". They came by many routes - some by ship around the Horn to San Francisco, others up from Mexico or down from Canada. Most came overland, however, enduring incredible hardships as they crossed the Great Plains, the deserts and finally the high mountain range called the Sierra into the California gold fields. That story has already been told, but it is intimately related to the story of the Comstock. Thousands of men struggled directly across the mountain that concealed the Comstock Lode on their way to California, never dreaming that over a third of a billion dollars worth of silver lay beneath their feet. Gold and the lure of sudden wealth spurred them on despite hardships which were described in one of their letters back East -"You can have no idea of the suffering among the emigrants traveling down the Humboldt and crossing the desert for more than one hundred miles before reaching the Sink . . . there is no grass of any consequence, the water is slippery stuff resembling weak lye as much as anything; from the Sink to Carson River is a distance of forty miles, the last twelve deep sand." Still they came on, destined for years of hard work for a pittance which one miner described as "the average is from ½ to 2 ounces per day... I shall stay up to the mines all winter, if I can make an ounce a day."

The fever ran its course, as did the gold deposits. Thousands of frustrated miners roamed the fields for the next ten years, determined to hang on rather than return to humiliation back home. The long trail over the mountains and down the American River to Sutter's Forth had led to Sacramento, a new boom town. Now the boom was gone and the town became the home of thousands of unemployed prospectors who walked the streets looking for work.

It was into this atmosphere of desperation that the cry of "Silver!" would soon be heard. The miners west of the Sierras knew that some of their companions has migrated back over the range to try their luck in the foothills and desert country to the east. Originally part of California, the area was called "Washoe Country" by the miners, a name taken from that of an Indian tribe which inhabited that area. In 1850 it became part of the new Territory of Utah, which it remained until it became Nevada Territory in 1861 and finally the state of Nevada in 1864. Into this unfriendly land had come a few miners to toil in the few creeks and rivers. Two of these men, Peter O'Riley and Pat McLaughlin, operated a "rocker", a crude device for separating gold from ore. Since a rocker requires quite a bit of water in its operation, O'Riley and his buddy moved up the mountain to dig a hole as a sort of reservoir or water-hole. In digging this hole they unearthed a quantity of black sulphuret of silver - a decomposed ore of silver filled with spangles of native gold. The gold was alloyed with so much silver, however, that it was more the color of silver than of gold. This odd-looking dirt puzzled the miners and they wondered just how much gold it contained. The results

GLEANINGS

TELL HIM NOW

If with pleasure you are viewing any work a man is doing,

If you like or you love him, tell him now;

Don't withhold your approbation 'til the parson makes oration

As he lies with snowy lilies o'er his brow;

For no matter how you shout it, he won't really care about it;

He won't know how many teardrops you have shed; If you think some praise is due him, now's the time to

slip it to him, For he cannot read his tombstone when he's dead!

More than fame and more than money is the comment kind and sunny.

And the hearty warm approval of a friend;

For it gives to you like a savor, and it makes you stronger, braver,

If he earns your praise, bestow it; if you like him, let him know it

Let the words of true encouragement be said;

Do not wait 'till life is over and he's underneath the clover

For he cannot read his tombstone when he's dead!

Hall's Hi-Lighter

Wanted for my personal collection - please describe and price.

Currency issued by TRANSPORTATION COMPANIES in the 19th century.

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EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Member clubs are making increased usage of the educational programs prepared by the Virginia Numismatic Association. These are beautiful 35mm color slides with accompanying taped narratives. There is no charge for the use of these programs and they will be shipped to the requesting club postpaid, your only obligation being to pay the return postage. Please order as far in advance as possible and mail your requests to:

The Virginia Numismatic Association P.O. Box 353 Hampton, Virginia 23369

The following programs are available:

- 1. Coins of Bible Days
- 2. Die Varieties of the Early United States Quarters #1
- 3. Die Varieties of the Early United States Quarters # 2
- 4. Hard Times Tokens
- 5. Highlights of the Early United States Half Dollar
- 6. The Story of Money in Virginia

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RICHARD JONES

P. O. BOX 1981 ROANOKE, VIRGINIA 24009

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RICHARD JONES Secretary - Treasurer P.O.Box 1981 Roanoke, Va. 24009

Make Checks payable to VNA and mail to the Secretary:

Name			_
Address			
City	State	Zip	
Collecting Specialty			
Name of your Club			_
Sponsored by	VNA No		
VNA USE ONLY	Applicants Signature		
Date Received	Date A _l	pproved	_
Number Assigned	Dues Re	eceived	

Collector of
VIRGINIA COUNTY NOTES

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Route 1, Box 90 Moseley, Virginia 23120

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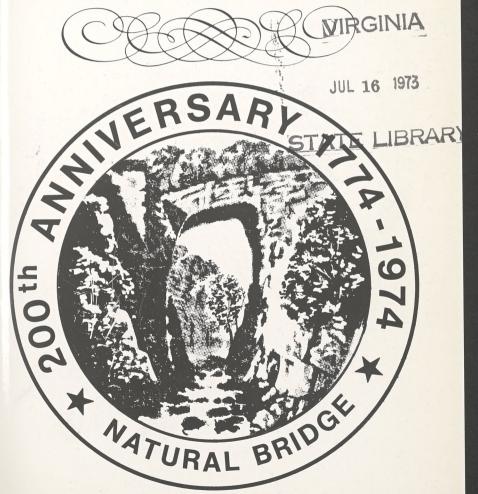
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VOLUME 9 NUMBER 4 1973

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

All Mail relating to The Virginia Numismatist should by addressed to:

DON ROBERTS, Editor
P. O. Box 353, Hampton, Virginia 23369

Address all Official mail of the Virginia Numismatic Association to:
RICHARD JONES, Secretary-Treasurer
P. O. Box 1981, Roanoke, Virginia 24009

VNA ELECTED OFFICERS

President, George K. Morehead 1st. Vice-President Donald Roberts 2nd. Vice-President, Brent H. Hughes Secretary-Treasurer, Richard Jones Sgt.-At-Arms, Elvin B. Miller Moseley, Virginia Hampton, Virginia Falls Church, Virginia Roanoke, Virginia Leesburg, Virginia pu

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THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 9

Number 4 1973

The VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST is the Official Publication of The Virginia Numismatic Association, Inc. and is published six times each year. Articles and Items for publication are welcome and Solicited. All six issues are mailed from Hampton, Virginia at the Third Class Postal Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure and send us your Change of Address.

All mail relating to THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST and ADVERTISING therein should be directed to THE EDITOR, P.O.Box 353 Hampton, Virginia 23369.

Direct all other Correspondence about Membership, Address Changes, etc. to the Secretary RICHARD JONES, P.O.Box 1981 Roanoke, Virginia 24009.

DISPLAY ADVERTISING RATES

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CIZE	1 - TIME YEAR (6-ISSUES)
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PUBLISHING SCHEDULE

ISSUE	ADV. DEADLINE	PUBLICATION DATE
Volume 9 Number 5	August 15, 1973	September 10, 1973
Volume 9 Number 6	October 15, 1973	November 10, 1973
Volume 10 Number 1	Dec. 15, 1973 3	January 10, 1974

Advertisers please note: No Ads will be accepted from Minors without their Parents Consent, All Ads must have Numismatic Significance. Special or Unusual copy requirements will be Billed extra, If in doubt, please write for details.

VNA has on file the names and addresses of all Advertisers. Any complaints or requests for information regarding advertisers should be referred to The Virginia Numismatic Association at P.O. Box 353 Hampton, Virginia 23369. The right to edit copy, to require payment in advance, and to decline any advertisment is specifically reserved.

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE



This is being written on Midsummer Day the start of Summer and the longest day of the year.

Do you remember the story about the young boy who went into the stationery store and asked the owner if he had a compass?

The owner said did he want the kind that makes circles - that was the only kind he had.

The boy told him: "No, I want the kind that shows you the right direction to go".

On this longest day of the year, lets all use the kind of compass that shows the right way to go, not the kind that draws circles around us and keeps the rest of the world out... and use it every day the rest of the year.

Share our wonderful hobby - get a new member for VNA! Point them in the right direction, too!

George K. Morehead, President VNA

ANA NEWS

Official ballots for the election of officers for ANA have been mailed to ANA members. Considerable interest has been caused by the contest for the office of President. All ANA members are urged to vote and to make their wishes known. To be valid, the ballots must be postmarked by midnight, July 25, 1973.

APPLICANTS FOR REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

The following individuals have applied for membership in the Virginia Numismatic Association and will become a member within 20 days of the mailing date of this notice unless some adverse reaction is received, in which case the matter will be acted on by the board of directors:

Applicants

Sponsors

Michael C. Frieders, Blacksburg, Va. Dean H. Davis, Jr., Roanoke, Va. Benny E. Lenox, Fredericksburg, Va.

Frank R. Hannah William W. Hannah W. H. Rudd

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1973-1974

The By-Laws of the Virginia Numismatic Association state that an Election Committee appointed by the President shall present a slate of Officers and Directors for each expiring elected office, not later than July 15th of each year. Additional nominations for any open office may be accepted from any member in good standing. Names of all nominees shall be published during the month of August and voted on by mail or at the Convention in September, by Ballot.

The nominating committee presents the following slate of Officers:

President	Donald Roberts	Hampton, Va.
1st Vice President	Brent Hughes	Falls Church, Va.
2nd Vice President	Elvin B. Miller	Leesburg, Va.
Secretary-Treasurer	Richard Jones	Roanoke, Va.
Sergeant-at-Arms	Ernest "Foots" Byer	Glen Wilton, Va.
Director	Charles J. Affleck	Winchester, Va.
Director	Frank Hannah	Hampton, Va.
Director	James A. Johnson, Jr.	Richmond Va.
Director	James K. Killingsworth	Virginia Beach, Va.
Director	Ealter L. Mason, Jr.	Rockville, Md.
Director	Howard E. Spain	Waverly, Va.

The By-Laws provide that election of the last three Past Presidents, who remain active and in good standing, to the Board of Directors is automatic. Those who fall in this category are:

Robert M. New James M. Beard George K. Morehead

HOW DO YOU RATE?

How do you rate?
Are you an active member,
The type that would be missed.
Or are you just contented
That your name is on the list?
Do you attend the meetings
And mingle with the flock,
Or do you stay at home,
And criticize and knock?
Do you take an active part,
To help the wrong along
Or are you just satisfied,
To be the kind that just belongs?

Anonymous

Do you push the cause along,
And make things really tick,
Or leave the work to just a few,
And talk about the "Clique"?
There's quite a program scheduled,
That I'm sure you've heard about.
And we'll appreciate it if you, too,
Will come and help us out!
You know right from wrong
Are you an active member,

OR DO YOU JUST BELONG?

OUR COVER STORY

B

The Virginia Numismatic Association in conjunction with the Natural Bridge of Virginia, is striking a medal commorating the 200th Anniversary of the purchase of the Bridge by Thomas Jefferson. This "Silver Dollar Size" Medal will feature a view of the Bridge on the Obverse and the official VNA Seal on the Reverse. Numbered sets of Silver and Bronze as well as un-numbered Bronze will be introduced at the Convention. Order blanks and prices will be mailed to all VNA members in August so that you may reserve yours.

BOOK REVIEW

TIDEWATER TOWNS — City Planning in Colonial Virginia and Maryland by John W. Reps, 345 pages, hard cover, illustrated. The University Press of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia, \$15.00 or book shops.

Many collectors are interested in history, and for those of us that live in the Chesapeake Bay area Mr. Reps presents a very interesting description of the development of the towns and cities in Tidewater.

Most of us have either lived in or visited the towns in Virginia and Maryland covered by the author from their start in colonial times. Many of us probably had the impression that, like Topsey, the towns and cities of the thirteen original colonies were not planned, they jest growed.

This carefully documented and thoroughly illustrated study of the towns in Tidewater shows that in almost every instance the towns were laid out on paper and staked out on the ground before the first house was built Baltimore, Norfolk, Hampton, Alexandria and many others all began with someone's plan of how the initial settlement should be laid out. Easy water transportation throughout the tidewater area had a considerable influence on location and development of the settlements. Plans, maps and views of a large number of towns are shown.

Williamsburg, Richmond and Washington, D.C. are each shown as examples of early attempts at urban development.

Take a copy of this book with you on your travels through Tidewater and you will see how many of the towns were planned — and how they have developed and changed from their beginnings.

VNA ANNUAL CONVENTION NEWS

The numismatic highlight of the year in Virginia, the 15th Annual Convention of the Virginia Numismatic Association, will take place at the Natural Bridge Hotel, Natural Bridge, Virginia, on September 21, 22 and 23. Be sure to come and enjoy the numismatic fellowship at this outstanding event.

BOURSE

Admission to the Bourse is free and all are invited. Ray Haymaker, this year's chairman, advises that the tables are selling well. A wide range of materials will be available.

EXHIBITS

Be sure to get in touch with the Chairman James M. Beard, at 317 Miller Street, Lexington, Virginia 24450, to arrange for space for your exhibits. Awards will be made for the following: "Best of Show", "Charles Affleck Award" for the best paper money exhibit and seven (7) "Outstanding Awards" for the next seven top awards without regard to category.

DINNER SPEAKER

We are greatly pleased to announce that Mr. Charles Hoskins, Director of the ANA Certification Service (ANACS) in Washington, D. C., will be the speaker for the annual banquet Saturday night. This gentlemen brings a wealth of experience in this field to us, at a time when rising prices and increased interest in coin collecting has brought about more need to be sure that an expensive coin is genuine.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

As usual, the annual business meeting of the Virginia Numismatic Association will be held at the Hotel on Saturday, September 22nd. Time and place of the meeting will be announced.

ANNUAL BANQUET

The banquet will be held Saturday night following the social hour and is always the highlight of the Convention. Following the excellent dinner will be the installation of officers for next year, presentation of awards and exhibit plaques and our featured speaker, Mr. Charles Hoskins, Director of the ANA Certification Service.

NATURAL BRIDGE MEDAL

The Natural Bridge Bicentennial Medal, struck to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the purchase of the Natural Bridge, will go on sale at the Convention. This will be a limited edition of numbered silver and bronze medals, for sale through VNA until the end of the year. After January 1, un-numbered bronze medals will be sold by the Natural Bridge Gift Shop.

"RAG-PICKERS" GET-TOGETHER

Last but not least, don't forget that on Saturday night, following the banquet, the "rag-pickers" will assemble for their annual get-together.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Please remember to arrange in advance for your rooms at the Natural Bridge Hotel. Remember, first come, first served.

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were astounding - the strange ore was richer than anything they had ever seen but the pale color of the gold worried them. They simply could not comprehend the presence of silver, but they knew the gold would be plentiful.

That evening, however, their lives were to be altered dramatically, for who should come riding into their camp than one H.T.P. Comstock. After examining the ore and seeing the traces of gold, Comstock casually informed O'Riley and McLaughlin that they were working on land that belonged to him. Comstock had one great talent - while others made a living with their strong back, he made his with his glib tongue. So convincing was he that he soon persuaded the miners that he held legal title to their claim, although he did not. Rather than get hauled into court, O'Riley and McLaughlin agreed to Comstock's suggestion that he and his buddy Manny Penrod be given an interest in their claim.

For a few weeks the miners had the area all to themselves and were hard at work at the rocker, saving only the gold and dumping the remainder of the ore down the side of the mountain. On the first day of July, 1859 they had a visitor. Augustus Harrison, a local rancher, dropped by to see the oddlooking dirt. He put a small quantity in his saddle bags and rode away. Later that month, he rode into the little town of Grass Valley, California, where he presented the ore to Judge James Walsh. The good judge thought enough of the curiosity to drop it by the local assayer, one Melville Atwood. Later that day, Atwood was astounded to find that the peculiar looking ore contained gold worth \$1,000 per ton, plus silver \$3,000 per ton. In essence the tests showed that the black-looking rock which the miners over in Washoe thought worthless and were throwing away was almost a solid mass of silver. Judge Walsh found his friend Harrison who quietly informed him that tons and tons of the ore lay in plain sight at the entrance to the mine over the mountains. At this point all who knew about the assay agreed that strict secrecy would be necessary if they were to cross the Sierras and claim as much ground as possible before the word got around. Melville Atwood had already confided in his friend George Hearst, an educated man who knew how to seize an opportunity. So that night two hastily-formed parties quietly left town headed for Washoe - Judge Walsh and his friends and George Hearst with his. Their secret was out, though, and they looked back the next morning and saw half the population of Grass Valley at their heels. They were to become the first ripple of a human tidal wave of miners who would rush to the new diggings. Hearst won the race and found O'Riley and McLaughlin quietly working their claim. Comstock was presumably back in town still talking. Hearst quietly looked over the area and then made the two miners an offer for their ground. O'Riley turned him down, but McLaughlin had had enough of aching back muscles and sold his interest for \$3,500. Hearst then tried to locate the other owners, starting with Comstock. But this time Judge Walsh won the race and bought out Comstock for \$11,000.

The transaction so elated Comstock that he quickly headed for the local saloon where he regaled his friends with the story of how he had taken the "rock shark from California" for all that money. The festivities must have been quite loud with Comstock's bragging because the silver vein was to be forever after called the "Comstock Lode" by local residents and finally by the history books. The strike was a fissure vein nearly four miles long in rock of the Tertiary Age. It was located at the base of Mount Davidson in the Virginia Range, an offshoot of the Sierra Nevada. The vein was over 3000 feet wide at the midsection. Running lengthwise of the mountain range, the vein could be reached at any point by simply digging a tunnel straight into the side of the mountain until the vein was struck. The richness of each claim depended of course upon the amount of silver at that particular spot, but overall it amounted to one of the richest concentrations of precious metal ever found on earth. By the summer of 1859, the Walsh and Hearst groups were shipping ore back over the Sierra - ore so rich that it could yield fantastic profits even after being hauled for 160 miles by muleback and another 80 by steamboat all the way to San Francisco for smelting. Soon bars of silver were put on display in bank windows and newspapers played up the story with banner headlines of "Silver in Washoe!" Among the desperate miners this cry quickly became "It's forty-nine all over again!" and the news hit each area like a trumpet blast. "From the crack of day to the shades of night," wrote one resident, "nothing is heard by Washoe."

The rabble army converged on the few passes through the Sierra, traveling by every type of conveyance available - mules, wagons, stagecoach, even oxdrawn carts. The meager facilities along the route were overwhelmed by the traffic. Typical was a wayside tavern called Dirty Mike's where one large room was reserved for sleeping. The only fixtures in the room consisted of a piece of broken mirror fastened to a window frame. Below it was a comb and a toothbrush each dangling from a piece of string, to be used by all guests after their night's rest on the dirty floor. A new town called Carson City was the last stop before reaching the mines, and the fortunate reached this settlement before winter closed in. The winter of 1859 was one of the worst on record, piling snow in some of the upper canyons up to 60 feet deep. When Spring finally came it found a miserable trail of dead animals, abandoned crates and broken wagons over a hundred miles long. But on the miners came, accompanied by the usual cross-section of frontier society intelligent ore men looking for promising claims to buy, promoters, speculators, gamblers, merchants, thieves, and of course the fair but frail ladies of the evening practicing the world's oldest profession. Only one man in fifty would actually end up digging tunnels, the other forty-nine being supported in fringe industries catering to the working miners. As winter faded the mining camp became the scene of frenzied activity in every sector with even the local Indians paying an occasional visit to add to the bedlam.

Despite it all, the settlement grew. Christened by a local drunk named "Old Virginny" Fennimore who changed that Comstock had cheated him out of his claim by trading him a half-blind horse, the town became known

as Virginia Town and later Virginia City. It eventually became the most famous mining town in the American West. One writer described the town as he found it in 1860: "Frame shanties, pitched together as if by accident; tents of canvas, of blankets, of brush, of potato-sacks and old shirts, with empty whiskey barrels for chimneys; smoky hovels of mud and stone; coyote holes in the mountain side forcibly seized and held by men; pits and shafts with smoke issuing from every crevice..." A newspaperman from San Francisco wrote: "I have been through one hundred degrees of latitude, north and south, but never before have found so inhospitable, miserable, God-forsaken a spot as this same Virginia City".

The primitive living conditions did not slow the outpouring of silver ore. Politicians in Washington made sure that the government would have to accept all the silver offered to it, later to be coined into silver dollars whether they were needed or not. The wealth helped finance the Union side in the Civil War, and afterwards helped establish present-day Nevada and California. But in 1860 and 1861 the area was overwhelmed by speculators of every type who would eventually bring ruin to hundreds of investors. Fraud was everywhere. Claims located miles from Virginia City were eagerly bought up by clerks, laundrymen and others with no knowledge of mining. Telegraph operators conspired to rig the market. Finally a San Francisco newspaper editor returned from the area and told the truth. Washoe suddenly lost some of its luster, stock prices tumbled, and hundreds of people lost everything they owned. Although the Comstock Lode would continue to produce silver, the frenzy was over and more organized mining developed. A few companies bought up the small mines and consolidated their activities. As late as 1878, over \$36,000,000 worth of silver came out. Immense machinery was installed over the years, both on the surface and deep in the mountain, and the Comstock became the wonder of the mining world. Visitors came from all over the world to look with awe at the pneumatic drills, hoisting machinery, ice water at every hand, underground rest areas, ore crushers, settling tanks, and smelting facilities. One pump alone at the Union mine cost \$547,000, had a flywheel 36 feet in diameter and a cylinder 100 inches in diameter.

Virginia City grew more sophisticated and by 1875 had over 25,000 residents. Road companies in the theater arts played it regularly. At one time six Shakespearean companies were playing at the same time for the entertainment of the more affluent, while minstrel shows, tent shows, prize fights and less-cultured exhibitions entertained the miners. When a great fired wiped out the town in 1875, it was quickly rebuilt of brick and stone. The International Hotel, six floors high with the first elevator west of Chicago, became the pride of Navada. On B Street, Millionaire's Row, fine homes went up to hours the mine superintendents and owners. By 1885 Virginia City was the Cosmopolis of the West.

In 1878 the Sutro Tunnel was drilled through the lode and drained the mines. In 1882 a tremendous flow of hot water broke through and flooded the main shafts up to the tunnel level. The miners had to leave the richer

ore and work at the higher levels. The government abandoned its artificial maintenance of silver prices and as the market slumped, so did production. Slowly the activity at the Comstock Lode dwindled and the end was in sight.

Long before that, however, the various characters in our story went their separate ways. Peter O'Riley sold out his interests for \$40,000, which he promptly lost to the speculators. He again took up his pick and shovel and searched for years for another Comstock. Failing to find it eventually cost him his sanity. Henry Comstock wandered up into Montana and Idaho in another fruitless search and finally committed suicide. Julia Bulette, queen of the red-light district, was murdered for her jewelry. Her killer, one John Millain, was caught, tried and met his maker in a hanging only slightly less elegant then the funeral given to the beloved Julia. Others were more fortunate. George Hearst made millions which eventually went to his famous son, William Randolph Hearst. Judge Walsh sold out too soon to become a millionaire but managed to live comfortably for the rest of his days.

But the original group of miners wanted no part of regular shift work for a big company and gradually drifted away to other areas searching for their big strike. They were an odd breed - crude, greedy, primitive, often very mean - but they were nevertheless real men. If they had been anything less they never would have survived their search for the earth's treasure. They are gone now, those pioneers of the Comstock saga, but their legacy remains for us to own and examine. The tiny Carson City mintmark on our silver dollars reminds us of the men who brought out the silver. In their own way, they must be called pioneers in numismatic history also.

This concludes the article on "The Comstock Lode" by Mr. Brent Hughes. VNA would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Hughes for this very interesting and timely article.

The following are items that VNA has for sale to it's Members.

Membership Pins \$3.50

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"The Obsolete Paper Money of Virginia" by Charles J. Affleck Volume I - Sold Out / Volume II - \$12.50

"Confederate Interim Depositary Receipts & Funding Certificates issued in The Commonwealth of Virginia" by Douglas B. Ball Hard Cover Copy - \$4.95 / Soft Cover Copy - \$2.50

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A MEDAL TO THE LAST REUNION

Everett K. Cooper

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The post-Civil War era, North and South, was prolific with gatherings and reunions of the veterans and their leaders. Nostalgia abounded as time was slowly healing the wounds of the fratricidal strife and the veterans ranks thinner with each passing year. One of the most touching and emotional was the final appearance of the Confederate leader Jefferson Davis in 1887 with a large gathering of Confederate soldiers twenty-two years after the last shot.

In midsummer 1887 committees were feverishly working for a grand reunion of the Confederate veterans at Macon, Georgia in conjunction with the Georgia State Fair during the last week of October 1887. An invitation was extended to the ex-President at Beauvoir who, though suffering poor health, reluctantly accepted.

The train trip eastward from Beauvoir was a triumphal procession with crowds at every stop of the train. Davis, his wife, and two daughters were nearly exhausted when they reached Macon on the evening of October 23rd. Fifty thousand had gathered for the Fair and Reunion and a torchlight parade was waiting the arrival of the Davis family. The aging ex-President rested at the home of a prominent local family. Two days after their arrival a procession of five thousand gray veterans marched out from town to pay their respects. As they approached they saw the aging Davis waiting on the veranda with his wife and two daughters. Emotion overcame the former soldiers and they moved pell-mell to greet their Commander-in-Chief, "twenty men at a time would try to grasp his hand, their eyes brimming with tears. A few bore faded battle flags, saved from capture ... one veteran draped the flag about Davis and the old commander pressed his face into its tattered folds to hide his own tears." The crowd and excitement were too much for Davis and he staggered with the infirmities of age. A physician quickly ordered complete rest.

But the strong-willed Davis would not disappoint the crowd and on Saturday October 26, 1887 he drove out to the Fair Grounds and the crowd of thousands. As the Davis family walked up the bandstand steps the band broke out with "Dixie" and the Rebel yell swept the crowd. Davis participated in some of the ceremonies and delivered a brief address. He was then quickly whisked away as the crowd surged forth to individually greet their hero. Davis was put to bed as soon as he returned to his host's house. Twenty-five months later the Southern leader passed away and this Macon reunion became his last.

Two medals, and perhaps there are others, were prepared to commemorate this tremendous reunion. Whether they were struck as "official" medals or the work of enterprising entrepeneurs is not known. The medals are described White metal, 37 mm diameter

Bust of Davis facing right, legend around edge OBVERSE: JEFFERSON DAVIS EX PRESIDENT C.S.A.

1861-65.

Floral wreath enclosing legend RE-UNION OF REVERSE: CONFEDERATE VETERANS MACON, GA. OCT. 26, 1887. At the bottom is the makers mark A. DEMAREST N.Y.

White metal, 37mm diameter

Bust of Davis facing right, legend JEFFERSON OBVERSE: DAVIS.

Floral wreath enclosing A MEMENTO OF THE REVERSE: REUNION OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS AT THE GEORGIA STATE FAIR OCT. 26, 1887.

Calendar of Coin Shows

Our	olidar or comment	
Club	Location	Date
Metropolitan Washington Numismatic Assn	Sheraton Motor Inn, Lanham, Md., 8500 Annapolis Road	July 13 -15
Roanoke Valley Coin Club	Roanoke Valley Civic Center, Roanoke	July 27-29
Blue Ridge Numismatic Assn	Civic Center, Burmingham, Ala.	August 2 - 5
American Numismatic Assn	Sheraton-Boston Hotel Boston, Mass.	August 23 - 27
Culpeper Numismatic Club	Holiday Inn, Route 29 South Culpeper	Sept 8 - 9
Virginia Numismatic Assn	Natural Bridge Hotel Natural Bridge	Sept 21, 22, 23
Rockingham Coin Club	National Guard Armory Harrisonburg	Sept 29 - 30
Alexandria Coin Club	Howard Johnson Motor Lodge, Alexandria, Va.	Oct 13 - 14
Middle Atlantic Numismatic Assn	Host Inn, Harrisburg, Pa.	Nov 2 - 4

NEWS OF OUR CLUBS

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Alexandria Coin Club

The Alexandria Coin Club will hold its annual coin show at the Howard Johnson Motor Lodge, Interstate 495 and Route 1, Alexandria, Virginia, on October 13 - 14, 1973. Address requests for tables to the Bourse Chairman, Marvin J. Loeb, 5021 Seminary Road, 1419, Alexandria, Virginia 22311.

Culpeper Numismatic Club

W. P. Barret, the Show Chairman, announces that the Culpeper Numismatic Club will hold its 5th Annual Coin Show and Bourse September 8 and 9, 1973. The Show will be open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday, at the Culpeper Holiday Inn, Route 29 South.

Metropolitan Washington Numismatic Association

Remember the new location of the 8th Annual Convention of MWNA in the Sheraton Motor Inn at Latham, Maryland. Take exit 30W from the Beltway (495). They have a small admission charge, but all the profits from the show are donated to the area Retarded Childrens Groups.

Radford Coin Club

Our friends in the Radford Club are doing what we have long advocated for all VNA members, they are becoming involved. The following article about the Club appeared on the Editorial page of the May 16, 1973 issue of COIN WORLD:

"SPREADING THE LIGHT"

Members of the Radford, Virginia, Coin Club made certain the young people in their area have an opportunity to learn about the Wonderful World of Coin Collecting.

Coin World has just received instructions from the Club to send subscriptions to school libraries at Blacksburg, Christianburg, Dublin and Pulaski, Virginia, high schools, and a renewal Coin World subscription for Radford, Virginia, high school library.

We compliment this generous group for their foresight, not just because they are giving Coin World subscriptions, but because they are actively promoting numismatic education in important places."

Rockingham Coin Club

The 12th Annual Coin Show will be held at the National Guard Armory at Harrisonburg, September 29 and 30. Requests should be sent to the Show Chairman, Philip H. Sharpe, 208 Governers Lane, Harrisonburg, Virginia, 22801

Salem Coin Club

Recent programs featured a report on the Coin Show at the Civic Center, discussions on programs and club membership and a talk on tokens, An auction will be the feature of the July meeting. Visitors are always welcome at the meeting held at the Salem-Roanoke Valley Civic Center.

Shenandoah Numismatic Society

The Club held its 12th Annual Coin Show at the George Washington Hotel in downtown Winchester on May 25 and 26. There were twenty six dealers from six states who stated that they did a good business in spite of the two days of rain. The many guests who attended came from sixteen states, the farthest being from Arizona. Next years show will be held on May 25 and 26, 1974, at the Hotel. Address request to the Bourse Chairman, W. P. Massey, Jr., P. O. Box 279, Winchester, Virginia 22601. The Society meets the third Wednesday of each month at the War Memorial Building in Winchester, at 7:30 p.m. Visitors are always welcome.

Shenandoah Valley Coin Club

The May meeting in Fishersville was the business meeting for the Club. In June, a joint meeting was held with the Harrisonburg Coin Club at the Electric Commission Building in Harrisonburg. The Club President, W. E. Showalter, has been ill, and all wish him a speedy recovery.

Southside Virginia Numismatic Association

One of our most vivid recollections of the Coin Show put on by the Southside Club at the Holiday Inn in Petersburg in May was meeting a club member, Robert Tipton Masterson, and his parents. At the time of the meeting, young Master Masterson was two and one half months old. He was enrolled as a Club member at his birth. Does any other one of our Clubs have a member that young? P.S. We enjoyed the show, too. Club meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month, at the Pioneer Federal Savings and Loan Association, 651 Boulevard, Colonial Heights, starting at 7:30 p.m. Stop by and enjoy the fellowship with them.

Virginia Peninsula Coin Club

The feature for the Club meeting in May was a most interesting talk and display on commemorative half dollars and related items by Gerald Chambers. In June, Milton Becker gave a talk illustrated with slides showing his visit to Isreal last year and the Isreal coinage. An auction is proposed for July. Stop by the Elks Club on Tidemill Lane in Hampton on the 3rd Monday of the month and visit awhile.

Washington Numismatic Society

Club meetings are held on the 2nd Monday on the month at St. Columba's Church Parish Hall at 4201 Albemarle Street in N. W. Washington. Feature of the May meeting was a look backward into the fabulous history of Virginia City, Carson City and the fantastic Comstock Lode, and the Carson City Mint. In June, a film entitled "Yesterday, To-day and Tomorrow - History of Flight". The film features Aviation as the most fascinating and exciting form of transportation. Members brought in coins, medals and paper money that fitted in with the transportation theme.

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The following programs are available:

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- 3. Die Varieties of the Early United States Quarters No. 2
- 4. Hard Times Tokens
- 5. Highlights of the Early United States Half Dollar
- 6. The Story of Money in Virginia

These are professionally produced and narrated 35mm color slides with the standard audio tape on reels. They are not available in tape cassettes. Programs may be used for showing to church groups, youth organizations and other worthy and interested clubs. Please be sure to return them as soon as possible after using them.

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1973

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

All Mail relating to The Virginia Numismatist should by addressed to:

DON ROBERTS, Editor
P. O. Box 353, Hampton, Virginia 23369

Address all Official mail of the Virginia Numismatic Association to:
RICHARD JONES, Secretary-Treasurer
P. O. Box 1981, Roanoke, Virginia 24009

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THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

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All mail relating to THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST and ADVERTISING therein should be directed to THE EDITOR, P.O.Box 353 Hampton, Virginia 23369.

Direct all other Correspondence about Membership, Address Changes, etc. to the Secretary RICHARD JONES, P.O.Box 1981 Roanoke, Virginia 24009.

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE



This is my last letter to you before our annual convention at Natural Bridge and my last letter as President of V.N.A.

My thanks go to all of the members of V.N.A. and all of the officials, both elected and appointed, for all of the hard work they did for V.N.A. this year.

Thanks too, to Frank Hannah for designing our new medal for V.N.A. and Natural Bridge. Be sure to get your set of these attractive medals at the Convention.

Remember that the books by Douglas Ball and Charlie Affleck will be on sale, along with our membership pins - you can enlarge your library and show that you belong to the best state coin club - V.N.A.

Bring your exhibits to share your collection and interest with the rest of us. This seems to me to be one of the most colorful parts of our show.

In the bourse we have been promised a wide range of coins, medals, currency and specialty items to suit all interests.

Best of all - come for the fellowship. See old friends again and make new ones.

NATURAL BRIDGE MEDAL

The Natural Bridge Bicentennial Medal, designed by Frank Hannah, will go on sale at the Convention. Struck in celebration of the 200th anniversary of the purchase of the Natural Bridge from King George III by Thomas Jefferson, a limited edition of silver and bronze numbered sets will be on sale by VNA until the end of the year. Un-numbered bronze ones will also be available. This attractive medal shows the natural bridge on the obverse and the VNA seal on the reverse. Be sure to get your order for sets in early. This is a joint venture of the VNA and the Natural Bridge Corp. After the first of January, un-numbered medals will be on sale at the Natural Bridge gift shop. Buy yours now from VNA! Order blanks were mailed out to all members. Get your order in early, and pick the medals up at the Convention and save postage. They make excellent gifts, too.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1973 - 1974

Ballots for the election of Officers and Directors of the Virginia Numismatic Association for the year 1973 - 1974 have been mailed to all members. Be sure to mark your ballot with your selection and return it by mail to the Secretary - Treasurer or bring it to the Convention in person. They must be turned in before 10 AM on Saturday, September 22, 1974.

OUR COVER THIS MONTH

MEDALS COMMEMORATING BATTLES OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

by Vladimir and Elvira Clain-Stefanelli Curators, Division of Numismatics

The National Museum of History and Technology Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C., 1973

Printed by MULTI-PRINT in Hampton, Virginia 44 pages

Seldom have we seen the old saying about good things coming in small packages so well shown as in this timely and beautifully illustrated book about medals given by the Congress for events in the period from 1776 to 1781.

The introduction describes the theme which is carried out so well in the body of the book:

"Few inventions could be more happily calculated to diffuse the knowledge and preserve the memory of illustrious characters and splendid events, than medals" - these words written in 1787 expressed also the feelings which inspired the Continental Congress when, in March 1776, it instituted the tradition to bestow upon its heroes the highest distinction, expressing national appreciation, in the form of a medal. The spiritual ties which existed during that period with France made it only natural that the United States would turn to that country for advice and help in the actual production of the medals. Almost two hundred years have passed since those eventful days: the original medals have changed hands, many have been scattered around, others have disappeared without any trace. But, in the meantime new evidence, such as artists' sketches and trial pieces, has come to light which has added new dimensions to the history of many of these pieces. It has also aided us to comprehend better the complex process of creating and manufacturing these medals which transformed the original ideas of Congress into appropriate plastic forms."

SIGN UP A NEW MEMBER IN VNA.

Why don't you sign up a new member during the Convention? His dues will be paid thru 1974, giving him three months FREE. They are only \$5.00 a year and I'm sure he will be greatful you did. a membership application form will be found in this issue of the Virginia Numismatist.

CONVENTION NEWS

Mark the dates September 21, 22 and 23 on your calendar and reserve these days to attend the 15th Annual Convention of the Virginia Numismatic Association at the Natural Bridge Hotel, Natural Bridge, Virginia. Enjoy the numismatic fellowship and the beauty of the Valley of Virginia in the fall. Bring your family, your want list, your swapping material and your exhibit along with you for a full weekend.

BOURSE

Ray Haymaker, this year's chairman, advises us that the tables are about sold out. Remember that admission is free and all are invited. A wide range of materials for all collecting interests will be available from the dealers.

EXHIBITS

Forms asking for reservations for exhibit space have been mailed to all members. Be sure to get yours in to the chairman, James M. Beard, at 317 Miller St., Lexington, Virginia 24450. According to his report, excellent exhibits will be on hand for your viewing pleasure. Share your interest and information with the rest of us - bring an exhibit.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The Annual Business Meeting of the Virginia Numismatic Association will be held at the Natural Bridge Hotel, Saturday, September 22, 1973. Time and place of the meeting will be announced. Be sure that your ballot for the election of officers is turned in before 10 AM.

NATURAL BRIDGE MEDAL

A limited edition of numbered silver and bronze medals, struck by the Virginia Numismatic Association in conjunction with the Natural Bridge of Virginia, will go on sale at the convention. Commemorating the 200th Anniversary of the purchase of the Bridge by Thomas Jefferson, the medal features a view of the Natural Bridge on the obverse and the official VNA seal on the reverse. This was designed by our own Frank Hannah, and will be sold by VNA for the rest of this year. Starting in January, they will be sold at the Natural Bridge Gift Shop. Be sure to get your order in early.

SOCIAL HOUR

A social hour will be held before the annual banquet. Time and location will be posted at the convention.

DINNER SPEAKER

It is our pleasure to announce that our dinner speaker will be Charles Hoskins, Director of the American Numismatic Association's Certification Service in Washington. Come and hear this gentleman tell about his work and how it affects you. To be sure to get a seat, it will be a good idea to get your dinner tickets when you register.



Our banquet speaker is the Director of the American Numismatic Association's Certification Service, Charles Hoskins, who previously directed the Money Museum of National Bank of Detroit and served as Public Information Officer and Numismatic Division Head of the U.S. Mint, Philadelphia.

"I'm not a speaker, I'm a talker," he said when invited to be with us. "Of course, a lecture about the dangers of numismatic counterfeits isn't the best tonic after a fine banquet, and I'm at a loss to pick another, more appropriate topic, so the nature of my speech must remain unknown -- to you and to me."

Charles Hoskins was born in Athens, a southeastern Ohio town, but he's always considered Virginia to be his home. His parents were born and raised in the southeastern corner of our state -- his father is the son of a former harbormaster at Newport News, and his mother is the daughter of the longest-serving sheriff of Middlesex County -- 45 years of service. His parents are now semi-retired (in other words, working harder than ever) in Saluda, Middlesex County seat.

"Natural Bridge is a fond memory for me," he said. "About twenty-five years ago I visited this natural wonder with my family, and my father showed me where, high up under the arch, one of my ancestors had carved his name. (I'm sure many naturalists shudder at the thought of the damage he did!) Perhaps I'll find that carving again during the convention weekend."

We are honored to have Mr. Hoskins as our guest speaker for the banquet at our 15th annual convention.

ANNUAL BANQUET

The highlight of the convention will be the banquet on Saturday night after the social hour. Following the excellent buffet dinner will be the installation of officers for next year, presentation of awards and exhibit plaques and our featured speaker, Mr. Charles Hoskins, Director of the ANA Certification Service in Washington.

"RAG PICKERS" GET-TOGETHER

Last but not least on the agenda for Saturday night, don't forget that following the banquet, the "rag pickers" will assemble for their annual get-together.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Please remember to arrange in advance for your rooms at the Natural Bridge Hotel. Reservation cards were included in the mailing to all members.

VNA ITEMS FOR SALE

When you register at the convention, you will be able to purchase Membership Pins, Volume II of The Obsolete Paper Money of Virginia by Charles J. Affleck, Confederate Interim Depositary Receipts and Funding Certificates Issued in The Commonwealth of Virginia by Douglas B. Ball and the Natural Bridge Medal sets.

NO AUCTION THIS YEAR.

We regret to announce that there will not be an auction this year. The firm that has done such a good job of putting on the auction in past years advised us that it was unable to get together a sufficient amount of quality material in time to get out catalogs to the members.

Our thanks to this year's Hosts, The Covington Coin Club, and to the many people whose unselfish work has made all of this possible!

See you there!

SYMS—EATON MUSEUM

by John B. Mitchell

"Whereas there is due to me two hundred Acres of land Lying in the old Poquoson River and Eight Milch Cows . . . I bequeath it as follows Viz The use of the said Land with the Milk and Increase Male of the said Cattle to be for the Maintenance of an honest Learned Man to keep upon the said Ground a free school to Educate and teach the Children."

This will, signed with an "X" by Benjamin Syms in 1634, established the first free school in America. And in 1659 Thomas Eaton willed five hundred acres for the same purpose. Eaton also provided, "Twelve cows and two bulls, Twenty hogs, young and old, one bedstead, a table, a cheese press, Milk Pailes, water tubbs, and powdering tubbs".

These two separate schools continued to "Educate and teach the Children" until the early 1800's. The Syms School is believed to have stood on land now within Langley Air Force Base. The Eaton School may have been

located near the present-day Hampton High School.

Hampton's modern Syms-Eaton Museum tells the history of the City of Hampton from the days of Benjamin Syms and Thomas Eaton to the present. Displays are arranged in chronological order beginning with the landing of the English colonists in 1607. Other exhibits tell the story of Blackbeard the Pirate; of Hampton's part in America's wars; of Buckroe Beach; of the City's crab and oyster industries; and of Langley Field and Fort Monroe.

There are full scale "period" rooms which depict a Hampton parlor of 1895; a country schoolroom of 1898; and a clerk's office at Langley Field in 1918. A section of the Museum features the story of Hampton's schools.

Copies of the Syms Will and of the Eaton Will are displayed.

The museum is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekdays and from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. It is located on West Mercury Boulevard, directly opposite the Hampton Aerospace Park.

The Museum also operates the Kecoughtan Indian Village, a replica of the dwellings occupied by the Kecoughtan tribe, who welcomed the English colonists in 1607. The village, adjacent to the Museum in open daily from

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The U.S. Coast Guard Lightship <u>Hampton</u> is another museum operated attraction. Moored on the Hampton waterfront, near the Hispanola Restaurant, the Lightship gives the visitor an accurate picture of life aboard one of these floating lighthouses. Hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. from Memorial Day to Labor Day, and from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday, and from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturday, Sunday, and holidays during fall and winter. Admission is free to all three attractions.

NEWS OF OUR CLUBS

Alexandria Coin Club

Plans are underway for the Club's annual coin show at the Howard Johnson Motor Lodge, Interstate 495 and Route 1, Alexandria, on October 13 - 14th.

Culpeper Numismatic Club

The Culpeper Club's 5th annual coin show and bourse will be held at the Culpeper Holiday Inn, Route 29 South on September 8 and 9.

Meherrin Valley Coin Club

Our friends from the other side of the James River will have their fall show at the Virginia National Bank Building in Boykins on September 16th. You are always welcome at their meetings.

Metropolitan Washington Numismatic Association

If you missed the show at its new location at Latham, Maryland, you missed a good one. Speakers, exhibits and bourse material were all of fine quality. And the profits help the area Retarded Childrens Groups.

Rockingham Coin Club

The National Guard Armory will be the site of the 12th Annual Coin Show on September 29 and 30, in Harrisonburg. Both exhibits and a bourse will be featured.

Salem Coin Club

Features of the summer meetings were reports on the coin show, talks on Tokens and Coin Grading and the induction of new members.

Shenandoah Valley Coin Club

Club auctions and displays were discussed at the meetings of Fishersville during the hot months. Plans are under way for fall programs.

Virginia Peninsula Coin Club

The Virginia Peninsula Coin Club, in cooperation with the Commerce Department of the City of Hampton, will put on sale at Hampton Fair Day a limited issue of dollar size numbered medals in sets of silver, bronze and aluminum to mark the city's citation as an All America City. Un-numbered bronze medals will also be on sale by the club. Designed by Frank Hannah, the obverse shows the award shield and the reverse reproduces the city seal.

Washington Numismatic Society

Summer programs for the club were "Common Sense in Grading" and a quiz led by past president Joe Clark. You may find the coin you need to fill the open space in your collection in the auction.

CALENDAR OF CLUB SHOWS

Culpeper Numismatic Club	Holiday Inn, Route 29 South Culpeper	Sept 8 - 9
Meherrin Valley Coin Club	Virginia National Bank Boykins	Sept 16
Virginia Numismatic Assn	Natural Bridge Hotel Natural Bridge	Sept 21, 22, 23
Rockingham Coin Club	National Guard Armory Harrisonburg	Sept 29 - 30
Alexandria Coin Club	Howard Johnson Motor Lodge, Alexandria	Oct 13 - 14
Middle Atlantic Numismatic Assn	Host Inn, Harrisburg, Penna.	Nov 2 - 4

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The following are items that VNA has for sale to it's Members.

Membership Pins \$3.50 (Please specify Clutch Back, Pin Back or Charm Loop)

"The Obsolete Paper Money of Virginia" by Charles J. Affleck Volume I - Sold Out / Volume II - \$12.50

"Confederate Interim Depositary Receipts & Funding Certificates issued in The Commonwealth of Virginia" by Douglas B. Ball Hard Cover Copy - \$4.95 / Soft Cover Copy - \$2.50

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The following article was originally prepaired as a guest column for fellow member Jim Packard's "Stamps and Coins", a Sunday feature of The Richmond Times-Dispatch.

The Virginia Numismatist would like to take this opportunity to thank The Richmond Times-Dispatch, Mr. Jim Packard and our own Jimmy

Johnson for permission to use this article.

STAMPS AND COINS BY JAMES A. JOHNSON JR.

In view of the current interest in the preservation of the remnants of the James River and Kanawha Canal, it is perhaps timely to discuss some of the paper money that was closely connected with its construction and operation.

The company itself issued a five dollar note that was beautifully designed,

nicely engraved, and well printed.

A portrait of George Washington, one of the original promoters of the canal, is on the left and the ancient goddess, Ceres, is depicted on the right.

In the center a vignette, probably representing the Richmond of that day, showed a loaded packet boat on the canal and a train paralleling it approaching a city on a river.

These notes were procured about 1850 from the leading note engraving and printing companies in Philadelphia and New York.

They were printed in sheets of four notes, each note identical except for a different serial letter, A, B, C, or D. They were numbered, dated, and signed by hand.

These were not bank notes, for only banks chartered by the state could issue such notes at that time. Instead they were drawn up as bonds on the company, paying interest at $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents per month (or six per cent per annum), and receivable for debts due to the company when presented six months after the date of issue.

In the meantime they could circulate as cash or be held for the interest at the option of the holder. This practice was not unusual in those days to finance and operate enterprises.

Of course, the company could fail and the holder be left with a worthless piece of paper. Because of this most such notes traded at a discount.

Most of the specimens that I have seen dated in the 1850s have been filled in with ink that has faded out almost completely. I have always wondered if this was not intentional, since other notes of the period were signed in a black iron ink that is quite strong today. Later, in about 1861, when the notes were again used, the filled-in portion was in red ink that is still clear and strong.

Many of the 1861 issues carried the written notation "Negro Hire" and sometimes the added information "Charles City."

The canal was literally built and maintained with sweat and shovels. Many of the laborers were slaves or groups of free Negroes whose services were contracted for by the owner or an overseer.

Notes with these notations presumably were paid to a Charles City contractor who supplied a labor gang. The canal itself did not extend into

Charles City County.

Another note dated in 1854 was issued by the Canal Packet Boat Accommodation Line. It was redeemable in "Passage, fare and freight on the Accommodation Line." Denominations listed are of 25 cents and 50 cents. A place was left for the signature of the captain, but those seen were signed with a company name -- probably one of their agents. Although crudely printed, the note bears an interesting vignette of a canal packet boat in transit, being pulled by three mules. It also bears the notation "J.R.&K. Canal."

No city of origin is printed on the notes since they were probably issued and used at all points the packet boat company served on the canal.

Still another Richmond company with ties to the canal issued two sets of scrip notes in 1861 and 1862 with the address on the notes given as the Basin Bank. This was, of course, the turning basin in the area south of Main St. between 9th and 12th. Pictures show that this area was an active business section for products shipped and received by canal freight.

This company, operated by A. C. Cocke, first put out a series of notes in Sept. 1861 under the title "Southern Exchange" in twelve denominations from 5 cents to \$1. These included some odd ones -- 12½ cents, 20 cents, 30 cents, 35 cents, 37½ cents, and 40 cents among others.

At this period under the Confederate States of America all coin was exceedingly scarce and many businesses issued their own scrip notes in order

to be able to make change.

The designer of these notes was evidently a man with a sense of humor for the central vignette is the reproduction of an embossed seal with the legend inside "Necessity is the Mother of Invention." These notes were receivable in payment for "Flour, Baled-Hay, Oats, Wood, etc., or in exchange for Bankable Funds at my office, ---."

In March 1862 the same signer issued another design of scrip notes and again his humor was apparent. These were issued under the title "Southern Change." Denominations ranged from 5 cents to \$2, and included a \$1.50 note, but many of the odd denominations of the previous issue were not duplicated. On some of these notes the term "Basin Bank" is printed in prominent letters, probably a humorous dig at the multitude of small Savings Banks that had sprung up in a few months in Richmond.

Such scrip notes were issued in limited amounts to circulate only in the

business area of the issuer, so it is doubtful if anyone was fooled by the Basin Bank designation. It is quite probable that these notes were well received and used extensively in Richmond, and later redeemed by Mr. Cocke, for today specimens are scarce and those seen are quite worn from use.

These reminders of the days of glory of the old James River and Kanawha Canal intensifies the interest in its preservation and partial restoration.

The 1913 Liberty Head Nickel

by Brent H. Hughes

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"As long as man is attracted by the unknown and beguilded by dreams of wealth, the 1913 Liberty Head Nickel will remain a symbol of mystery and hope. Few coins have been born under more clouded circumstances; none lives in an atmosphere more bright with promise." These words, probably more than any other, summarize the deep feeling of the late J. V. McDermott for his beloved "Miss Liberty", and we certainly mean no personal criticism of Mr. McDermott if we take exception to part of his message. The 1913 Liberty Head Nickel will remain a symbol of mystery, but not of hope. It was most assuredly born under clouded circumstances, but those circumstances have not been changed by the passage of time. The coin lives today in the same clouded atmosphere in which it was born.

Actually, if we wish to be very technical about it, the 1913 Liberty Head Nickel does not exist at all. If you were to write to the Mint tomorrow about this coin, you would probably receive the same answer that has been given out for years - "no Liberty Head nickels dated 1913 were officially issued by the United States Government." As numismatists we know that a coin is a piece of metal marked and issued by governmental authority to be used as money; therefore by definition the 1913 Liberty Head Nickel is not a true coin. It never was and it never can be. It is a tragedy that collectors are still willing to pay huge sums for these so-called coins. Many of us have seen the item at various conventions and know that a whole generation of Americans grew up in the belief that these coins were in circulation just waiting to be discovered. This carefully contrived mystery about the coin was the major element in promoting the fantastic price it brings today.

But for the moment let's put aside our contempt for this piece of metal, for the sake of convenience let's call it a coin, and explore its fascinating history from birth to present day. For woven in the fabric of its existence we will find some of the best-known names in numismatics today, plus some little-known individuals, and for good measure, a couple of scoundrels and perhaps an eccentric or two. It is an interesting story, still inconclusive and still mysterious.

It was six years after 1913 as a matter of fact before hardly anyone suspected that such a coin even existed. First public mention occurred in a small ad in the December 1919 issue of "The Numismatist" magazine, the official publication of the American Numismatic Association. The ad did not offer the coin for sale, but rather offered to buy the coin "in proof condition if possible" for \$500. The ad continued in the January, February and March 1920 issues with the price upped to \$600. Then silence. The ad was signed by one Samuel W. Brown of North Tonawanda, N.Y. The ad created little interest - after all, who was Samuel W. Brown? And why would anyone run an ad offering to buy a coin that did not exist? No one knew but Brown, theoretically. Then at the ANA Convention in Chicago in August, 1920, who should show but Mr. Samuel W. Brown, with five of the coins.

He put one on exhibit at the convention. In the October issue of "The Numismatist" we find the following report, "Samuel W. Brown of North Tonawanda, New York, was present for a short time on Monday. He had with him a specimen of the latest great rarity in U.S. coinage, the nickel of 1913 of the Liberty Head type. It was among the exhibits of the Convention, with a label announcing that it was valued at \$600, which amount Mr. Brown announced he is ready to pay for all proof specimens offered to him. An explanation of its rarity is that at the close of 1912, the Mint authorities not having received orders to use the dies of the Buffalo type nickel at the beginning of 1913, prepared a master die of the Liberty Head type dated 1913, and from this master die a few pieces, believed to be five, in proof were struck. None of these are believed to have been placed in circulation."

If Mr. Brown came to the ANA convention with the idea of selling his nickels, he was disappointed. He took four of the coins back home with him, and made arrangements with Alden Scott Boyer, president of the Chicago Coin Club, to pick up the fifth nickel when the convention closed. Boyer kept it for several months and returned it to Brown insured for \$500. So in 1921 we find Mr. Brown back in New York State with all five nickels. Now, of course, comes the question - where did these coins originate and how did Brown acquire them? For the answers let us proceed in two directions - the

official records of the Mint, and the biography of Mr. Brown.

In the Mint records, we find these facts. Near the end of 1912, the Mint was preparing to bring out the new James E. Fraser Indian and Buffalo nickel design. On December 13, 1912, Mint Director George Roberts instructed the Superintendent of the Philadelphia Mint John H. Landis to make no preparations for the coinage of any 1913 five cent pieces until the new designs were ready. Now in following normal procedures, Roberts had already had the dies for the 1913 Liberty Head nickel made and locked in his vault. On December 26, 1912, hubs for the new Buffalo nickel were received by the engraver at the Philadelphia Mint. Roberts again instructed his superintendent to do nothing about coinage until formal approval of the new designs was received.

On January 18, 1913, Director Roberts further instructed his Superinintendent of the Philadelphia Mint as follows: "Replying to yours of the 17th instant I beg to say that you will not forward any working dies for the new five-cent nickel piece to the other mints until instructions to that effect are given. Do nothing about any coinage at Philadelphia until you receive formal instructions to that effect. The new deisgn has not been formal-

ly approved."

This formal approval was received on February 19, 1913, and actual coinage of the Buffalo nickel began on February 21, 1913. So somewhere in the vaults at Philadelphia lay the dies for a 1913 Liberty Head nickel, a coin never to be officially issued. The stage was set for the illegal activity. Five coins were made from those dies. The question is when? Logic says 1912, and in the Mint itself. One theory is that - it is standard practice for Cont. next issue

VNA - EDUCATIONAL - PROGRAMS

VNA is still offering its educational programs consisting of beautiful color slides and accompanying taped narrative for use to its member clubs. There is no charge for the use of these programs and they will be shipped postpaid, your only obligation being to pay the return postage. Please order as far in advance as possible. Mail requests to: The Virginia Numismatic Association, P. O. Box 353, Hampton, Virginia 23369.

The following programs are available:

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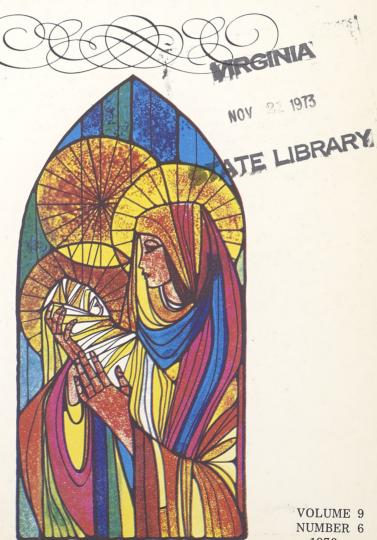
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1973

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

All Mail relating to The Virginia Numismatist should by addressed to:

DON ROBERTS, Editor

P. O. Box 353, Hampton, Virginia 23369

Address all Official mail of the Virginia Numismatic Association to:
RICHARD JONES, Secretary-Treasurer
P. O. Box 1981, Roanoke, Virginia 24009

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1st. Vice-President, Brent Hughes
2nd. Vice-President, Elvin B. Miller
Secretary-Treasurer, Richard Jones
Sgt.-At-Arms, Ernest "Foots" Byer

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THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 9 NUMBER 6 1973

The VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST is the Official Publication of The Virginia Numismatic Association, Inc. and is published six times each year. Articles and Items for publication are welcome and Solicited. All six issues are mailed from Hampton, Virginia at the Third Class Postal Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure and send us your Change of Address.

All mail relating to THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST and ADVERTISING therein should be directed to THE EDITOR, P.O.Box 353 Hampton, Virginia 23369.

Direct all other Correspondence about Membership, Address Changes, etc. to the Secretary RICHARD JONES, P.O.Box 1981 Roanoke, Virginia 24009.

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Advertisers please note: No Ads will be accepted from Minors without their Parents Consent, All Ads must have Numismatic Significance. Special or Unusual copy requirements will be Billed extra, If in doubt, please write for details.

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE



Our thanks are extended to all who worked so hard and made our annual meeting at Natural Bridge such a success. Even the weather was on our side this year! The rain stayed away! and lots of people came and enjoyed themselves Again this year we are making a photographic report of the Convention in The Numismatist that way you all can see who was there and what was going on in the

various parts of the Bourse, exhibit areas, the dinner meeting and the other activities. Together with numismatics, the food and fellowship was enjoyed by all.

We would like to work toward building our membership in all parts of our fine State of Virginia, helping our member Clubs improve their programs and activities, and promote numismatics in general. VNA wants to help you, and wants you to help VNA. That way we can all promote our hobby.

Again we offer the theme that an educated numismatist is a better numismatist. The items we collect are not just coins, medals, currency, tokens, political or national convention items, they are pieces of our history in our hands. When we know why and how they came about, who designed them, made them, used them, what effect they had on the life and times of the people that used them - and can pass that on to others and make them interested in it - then we too, will be numismatists.

On behalf of the officers and directors of VNA, I would like to wish that each of you will have a Happy Holiday Season. By working together, toward a common goal, we can make this coming year one of the best ones ever.

> Don Roberts President, VNA

VNA 1974 OFFICERS

The Secretary has furnished us with the list of officers and members of the Board, as determined by the ballots received prior to the time set:

President - Donald Roberts 2nd Vice Pres - Elvin B. Miller Sgt-at-Arms - Ernest "Foots" Byer

1st Vice Pres - Brent Hughes Sec-Treas - Richard Jones

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"BLAND MEDAL" presented to GOVERNOR LINWOOD HOLTON



Governor Linwood Holton, Governor of The Commonwealth of Virginia was honored on Monday, October 15, 1973 for "his exemplary contribution to race relations" by the American Negro Commemorative Society.

In a brief ceremony held in the governor's office, at the State Capitol, the governor was presented the James A. Bland Commemorative Medal. It was one of a limited-edition sterling silver proof medals honoring the author of Virginia's official song, "Carry Me Back To Old Virginia".

Lawrence K. Chavis of Petersburg, a member of the board of advisors of ANCS made the presentation. Chavis, a faculty member of Virginia State College, and a life member of The Virginia Numismatic Association was accompanied by Dr. Wendell P. Russell, Virginia State College President. He also stated that Holton "exemplifies statesmanship of noble caliber and furnishes leadership necessary for making Virginia a show place of the nation in race relations."

Holton was also cited by the society for "his national leadership in education." In accepting, the governor replied, "I appreciate the gesture and the feeling behind it. You are most kind."

In addition to the medal and citation, the governor was presented a biography of Bland prepared by Frank R. Hannah, of The Virginia Numismatic Association.

The American Negro Commemorative Society was founded in 1968, and is based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It was the first society in the United States to commemorate distinguished Negroes, in the form of Medallic Art, in a meaningful way. The society has 1380 members who receive medals bimonthly. To date 60 distinguished Americans have been honored in the series of Commemorative Medals. The Bland Medal is number 10 in series 2.

James A. Bland (1845-1911), a native of New York, composed and published his most famous song, "Carry Me Back to Old Virginny," by the time he was 24 years old. He was featured on billboards as "James Bland - The World's Greatest Minstrel Man." His song, "Oh, Dem Golden Slippers," became a London favorite.

Bland died alone in Philadelphia in 1911 and was buried in the suburb of Merion. There was not even a death notice in any Philadelphia paper, and soon his neglected grave was covered with weeds and poison ivy, in a forgotten corner of the tiny cemetery. But not everyone had forgotten the composer of Listen to the Silver Trumpets, Pretty Little Caroline Rose and In the Evening by the Moonlight, for Oh, Dem Golden Slippers became the marching song of Philadelphia's annual Mummers Day Parade. And years later Dr. Cooke, the editor of the musical magazine, Etude, began to seek out the facts of Bland's life and instituted a search for his grave, so that a suitable memorial might be erected there. In 1946 the Governor of Virginia, William M. Tuck, headed a delegation to Merion Cemetery for a ceremonial and the placing of a wreath beneath a modest granite slab, newly erected by the Lions Clubs of Virginia and inscribed with the words:

JAMES A. BLAND

Oct. 22, 1854 — May 6, 1911

NEGRO COMPOSER WHO WROTE "CARRY ME BACK TO OLD VIRGINNY"

The presentation was a most outstanding event in terms of goodwill, race relations, and honoring a distinguished and deserving statesman. Also, one cannot help but feel that Mr. Bland would have been highly gratified to have known that he was highlighted on this most significant and historic occasion.

CALE	ENDAR OF COIN SHOWS	
Club	Location	Date
Tidewater Coin Club	Mariner Resort Inn Virginia Beach	March 23-24, 1974
Southside Numismatic Assn	Downtown Holiday Inn Petersburg	May 5
Shenandoah Numismatic Society	George Washington Hotel, Winchester	May 25-26

NEWS OF OUR CLUBS

We have been pleased to receive reports on regular meetings and Annual Conventions and Coin Shows from member clubs. Congratulations to all of them for their continuing and special activities, as reported by: Tidewater Coin Club; Rockingham Coin Club; Meherrin Valley Coin Club; Washington Numismatic Society; Virginia Peninsula Coin Club; Salem Coin Club; Shenandoah Valley Coin Club; Blue Ridge Numismatic Association and Middle Atlantic Association.

If your Club is not listed here, we are not receiving your Club Bulletincheck with your Editor and see that a copy goes to: VNA Editor, P.O. Box 353, Hampton, Virginia 23369. We do not want to overlook anyone.

APPLICANTS FOR REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

The following individuals have applied for membership in the Virginia Numismatic Association and will become a member within 20 days of the mailing date of this notice unless some adverse reaction is received, in which case the matter will be acted on by the board of directors:

Applicants

Roger D. Woodby, Portsmouth, Virginia Betty O. Hickman, Buena Vista, Virginia Gilbert N. Wood, Farmville, Virginia Douglas F. Seal, Crozet, Virginia Robert M. Lewis, Petersburg, Virginia Milton H. Kibbe, M.D., Radford, Virginia Miss Beverly Brubaker, Roanoke, Virginia Cdr Louis E. Doucet, Petersburg, Virginia Gregory Tucker, Prince George, Virginia John G. Alvarez, Arlington, Virginia Francis F. Spencer, Virginia Beach, Virginia William P. Mann, Williamsburg, Virginia M. L. Adams, Newport News, Virginia Gerald S. Swenson, Newport News, Virginia Charles A. Dean, Nashville, Tennessee Raymond Estep, Mount Jackson, Virginia Samuel E. Roakes, Jr., Colorado Springs, Colorado

Sponsors

Robert V. Blow William Hannah Jim Beard Robert B. Brown William Hannah L. K. Chavis Marjorie Beard L. K. Chavis L. K. Chavis George E. Miller William Hannah Reed S. Walton Frank Hannah Reed S. Walton Don Roberts George Miller Elvin B. Miller

We were sorry to hear that VNA member Milton Becker had been in the hospital for some time. He is out now and on the mend. Everyone wishes you an early recovery, Milton.



The 1913 Liberty Head Nickel

by Brent H. Hughes

any engraver to make trial pieces to see if his dies are correct. There is no reason to think that this was not done in the case of the 1913 Liberty Heads. Satisfied that his dies were as they should be, the engraver then stored the dies and the trial pieces in the vault. But here is a strange fact - the Mint has no record of such dies, even though every die is supposed to be numbered, signed for and enumerated and recorded at the end of the year.

Another theory that has been mentioned is that a friend of Brown could have gotten to the dies as late as 1919 and used Mint presses to make the coins. This is hard to accept. First of all, the risk of detection would have been great. It is hard to believe that it could have been done this way without more then one employee in on the deal.

Before you accept any of the theories, we should look into the personality of Mr. Brown. What do we know of him? One very important fact - he was an employee of the Philadelphia Mint, going to work there on December 18, 1903. From 1904 to 1907 he served as assistant curator of the Mint Collection at \$1000 per year. On February 1, 1907 he became storekeeper at \$1200 per year, and on July 1, 1910 he was promoted to clerk storekeeper at \$1400 per year. He resigned on November 14, 1913. Nothing unusual about this career, but one fact worth noting - in April 1906, he joined the ANA as member number 808. Now since he joined the ANA during this tenure, we can assume that he was familiar with coin values. It is also safe to assume that as he handled the rarities in the Mint Collection he was quite conscious of their numismatic value. So if we accept the theory that the theory that the coins were made in 1912 or early 1913, a number of possibilities appear for us to consider. First, since the Mint has no record of dies having been made, perhaps only hubs were made at the time and later on someone illegally made dies from the hubs and struck the nickesl. Second, unrecorded Mint dies were illegally taken out of the Mint and the coins struck outside the Mint. Third, both dies and trial pieces could have been stored at the Mint and the trial pieces illegally removed. If we accept the last theory, then the 1913 Liberty Head nickels are patterns in one sense. But whether we call them patterns or trial pieces, the fact remains that there are many rarer patterns and trials none of which command anywhere near the prices offered for the nickels.

It is doubtful if we will ever know the true story of these coins - your guess is as good as mine. In any event, Mr. Brown obtained the coins from

WANTED 1913 LIBERTY HEAD NICKEL



In Proof condition, if possible.
Will pay \$500 cash for one.

SAMUEL W. BROWN,

North Tonawanda, N. Y.

First public mention of the 1913 Liberty Head Nickel was this ad in the December, 1919 issue of "The Numismatist".

someplace, and he decided to dispose of them. But he must have been a cagey fellow, for he did not simply offer them for sale. Instead he placed his ad as an offer to buy, knowing full well that he could have no takers. Six months later he could safely show up at the ANA Convention with five of the coins and most people would assume that he had bought the coins as a result of the ad.

Mr. Brown passed on to that great bourse table in the sky in 1944, apparently taking his secret with him. Everyone else involved in the 1913 episodes is also dead now. But we know this absolutely. There is no official record of dies, trial pieces, or any other evidence of legality. In fact, we have recorded the specific injunction of the then Director of the Mint forbidding the production of such coins. As Don Taxay says in his book, "Counterfeit Mis-struck and Unofficial U.S. Coins", the confiscation of a 1933 twenty-dollar gold piece on the grounds that it was issued without authority was upheld by the courts and set a precedent by which 1804 dollars, 1884-85 Trade Dollars and 1913 Liberty Head Nickels could likewise be seized without compensation. It is unfortunate that circumstances have placed these coins in such a position in the public's mind that fortunes are offered for them. Let us see how these circumstances came about.

Brown kept his five coins for awhile and sometime before 1924 he sold them to a Philadelphia stamp dealer named August Wagner. Perhaps you will attach some significance to the fact Wagner was located in the same city as the Mint. Apparently it was August Wagner who had a special black leather plush-lined case made for the coins. This case contained eight coins - five 1913 Liberty Head nickels, a copper strike of the Buffalo nickel, and one each uncirculated 1913 Buffalo raised ground variety and the recessed variety. This is the same case that was sold to Ned Green. The case is now owned by the Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society with a label which states, "The original leather holder made specially to hold the following coins: Five 1913 Liberty Head Nickels, one buffalo nickel type 1 dated

Arnold Aumismatic Co. Providence, R. I.

FOR SALE.

Five (5) Five-Cent Liberty Head 1913 Coins. Proof.

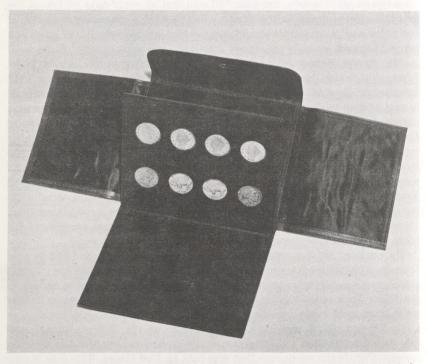
The only Five-Cent Liberty Head Coins of this design and year in existence.

AUGUST WAGNER,

31st and York Sts., Philadelphia, Pa.

"" "" and looking for varieties in

First public offer to sell the 1913 Liberty Head Nickel was this ad in the January, 1924 issue of "The Numismatist".



Plush-lined leather case made to hold the five 1913 Liberty Head Nickels, a 1913 Buffalo Nickel in copper, and two regular issue 1913 Buffalo Nickels of the raised ground and recessed varieties.

1913; one buffalo nickel type 2 dated 1913; the buffalo nickel type 2 incooper alloy dated 1913." Mr. Newman also owns the latter coin which he assumed for years was simply a copper-plated regular nickel, and kept it in his collection of fakes. When non-destructive analysis came along, he found that his coin was made of 95% copper, 2½% sinc, and 2½% nickel and in a genuine trial piece. It is also unique, which of course makes it five times rarer than the 1913 Liberty Heads. Yet publications up to now have largely ignored it. And it is much more legitimate than the Liberty Heads. Such is life . . . and people.

But back to our story of Mr. Wagner. The first indication that Wagner had the coins was when he ran an ad in the January, 1924 issue of "The Numismatist", without a price being mentioned. The set of coins was sold to Ned Green either directly or thru Wayte Raymond on whom Green relied for much of his dealing. When Green died, some of his coins were bought by B. G. Johnson, a St. Louis dealer. In those coins was the set of nickels, which incidently Johnson believed to be fakes for he always offered them on an "as is" basis. Johnson offered the nickels to several other dealers, including one named B. Max Mehl. Now it was Nehl who was responsible for building up the 1913 nickel into a nationally-known item. Max had always been fascinated by the coin, and during the twenties and thirties he convinced the American public that the coin could be found in circulation and that he would pay \$50 for every one sent to him. During the great depression, \$50 looked very big indeed. Mehl once said, "When Johnson had them I saw them all and was offered the entire lot for \$3,500. Being an expert (?) numismatist, I offered him \$2,500 for the lot. Just a little over two years later, I sold a single specimen, the Olson, for \$3,750."

Actually Johnson was just kidding Mehl with his offer of the set because of his years of looking for the nickel without success. Johnson knew that he would get a better price selling the coins individually. So he broke up the set. We can best trace their movements since then by giving the coins a

number, one through five.

Nickel number one was bought by Eric P. Newman, the well-known St. Louis numismatist, who turned the coin over to Abe Kosoff, a dealer, who sold it to Louis Eliasberg of Baltimore. The coin became part of one of the most complete collections of U.S. coins in the world.

Nickel number two was bought by F.C.C. Boyd of New York City who kept it until 1944 when it was sold by Kosoff to Kind Farouk of Egypt. When Farouk was deposed by Abdul Nasser, the coin was sold by the Egyptian Government to Sol Kaplan of Cincinnati who in turn sold it to Mrs. Henry Norweb of Cleveland, Ohio, who still has the coin.

Nickel number three was bought by James Kelly, a dealer in Dayton, Ohio, who sold it to J. V. McDermott for \$900 in 1943. McDermott died and his widow turned the coin over to Kelly who auctioned it off at the 1967 ANA Convention in Miami. Successful bidder was Aubrey Beebe, a dealer, who paid \$46,000 for it. It is for sale today, if you can meet Beebe's price.

Nickel number four, also bought by James Kelly, was sold to Dr. Conway Bolt of Marshville, N.C. for \$1,000. Dr. Bolt later sold his coin to George Walton of Roanoke, Virginia. Walton was killed in an auto accident and his estate sold the coin to an anonymous buyer believed to be a North Carolinian.

Nickel number five, the third of the coins bought by Kelly, was sold to Fred Olson of Illinois who later turned it over to Max Mehl to be sold. Mehl received \$3,750 from King Farouk for the coin, but Farouk returned it shortly thereafter when he acquired coin number two for \$2,750. Mehl then sold number five to Edwin Hydeman of New York for \$3,750 who kept it until 1972 when he sold it through Abe Kosoff to World-Wide Coin Investments of Atlanta, Georgia, for \$100,000. Since the latter firm is a dealer, there must be some belief that the nickel is worth more than the purchase price. Their plans have not been announced at this writing.

So there we have it - the story of the famous nickel. It is just one of the many interesting facets of our hobby that people are willing to pay such huge amounts for a coin that officially does not exist. And remember, collectors read about such transactions as the latest one and shake their heads in disbelief, just as other collectors shook their heads when it sold for \$900. So we can wait, but don't be surprised if one of the nickels sells for a quarter-million dollars within just a few years. Do I hear any bids?

VNA would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Brent Hughes for writting this very fine article and making it available to "The Virginia Numismatist."

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Member clubs are making increased usage of the educational programs prepared by the Virginia Numismatic Association. These are beautiful 35mm color slides with accompanying taped narratives. There is no charge for the use of these programs and they will be shipped to the requesting club postpaid, your only obligation being to pay the return postage. Please order as far in advance as possible and mail your requests to:

The Virginia Numismatic Association P.O. Box 353 Hampton, Virginia 23369

The following programs are available:

- 1. Coins of Bible Days
- 2. Die Varieties of the Early United States Quarters #1
- 3. Die Varieties of the Early United States Quarters # 2
- 4. Hard Times Tokens
- 5. Highlights of the Early United States Half Dollar
- 6. The Story of Money in Virginia

1973 - CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS - 1973

This year we are again making a photographic report of the annual meeting - thanks to Frank Hannah for this opportunity to see who was there and what was going on in the bourse and exhibit area and at the banquet (maybe other places, too, if he remembered to take the dust cap off the lens!)

The Ladies enjoyed two trips to Lexington on Saturday to tour the City and to look in the shops.

Our friendly weatherman smiled on us and kept the rain away this year. Bless him!

We missed the auction this year - but we hope that it can be resumed next year - keep your fingers crossed and get some good material together for it.

Our thanks to the people at Natural Bridge for the fine accommodations and the excellent buffet dinner on Saturday night.

Among the guests we were pleased to welcome were Chet Krause, the publisher of Numismatic News, and John J. Pittman, the immediate past president and board member of the American Numismatic Association. The Virginia Peninsula Coin Club from Hampton and the Southside Virginia Numismatic Club from Petersburg had the largest delegations from clubs at the convention - we hope the rest of the member clubs will try to match them next year.

Greatly missed was the smiling face and friendly guidance of our own Charles Affleck. We all wish a speedy recovery, Charley.

The dealers at the bourse tables had a wide range of materials on display and did a good business all during the convention. Many of us took the opportunity to add to our collections.

Most of the numbered sets of Natural Bridge medals were sold at the convention, but a few sets are still on hand. They may be ordered from P.O. Box 353, Hampton, Virginia 23369 for \$12.98, including tax and postage, while they last.

VNA would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Frank Hannah and all of his Chairmen for the outstanding job they did in making this year's convention one of our Best Ever.

SPECIAL AWARDS

The following special awards were presented at the Banquet:

Past President - George K. Morehead
Design Natural Bridge Medal - Frank Hannah
Outstanding Member of the Year - Richard Jones
For contributions to the Virginia Numismatist Brent Hughes - Everett Cooper - James A. Johnson, Jr.

Our congratulations and thanks go to them!

EXHIBITS

The exhibits prepared and displayed by our VNA members are always one of the more noteworthy parts of our annual meeting. This year 18 exhibitors entered a total of 65 cases in competition. Awards were won by the following:

Junior Award - Brenda Robertson

Outstanding Awards - John Booth, Lawrence Chavis, Clarence Coleman, Linus Goyette, Richard Jones, Calvin Wall and Ralph Zollman.

Best of Show - Robert Ross

Charles J. Affleck Award - Harold Robertson

Other exhibitors entering displays were: Ronald Hotinger, Margery Hannah, R.A. Hicks, Harry Wigington, Charles & Betty Hickman, Ray Haymaker, Dean H. Davis, Jr., and Elvin Miller.



Bob Ross shown with Plaque for winning exhibit "Hard Times Tokens"



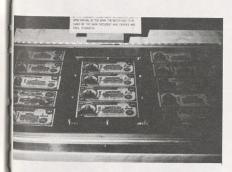




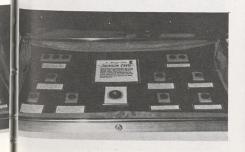


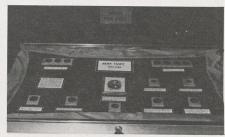














President Don Roberts buys one of the first N.B.Medals from Bill Hannah

























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The Gold Coins at this years Convention were won by:

\$20.00 Gold Piece Clif Hannah \$10.00 Gold Piece Jake Siler \$ 5.00 Gold Piece E. M. Seneca

The following are items that VNA has for sale to it's Members.

Membership Pins

\$3.50

(Please specify Clutch Back, Pin Back or Charm Loop)

"The Obsolete Paper Money of Virginia" by Charles J. Affleck Volume I - Sold Out / Volume II - \$12.50

"Confederate Interim Depositary Receipts & Funding Certificates issued in The Commonwealth of Virginia" by Douglas B. Ball Hard Cover Copy - \$4.95 / Soft Cover Copy - \$2.50

All prices are plus tax & shipping / They may be ordered from:

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION Post Office Box 353 / Hampton, Virginia 23669

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